

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



**Town of Somerset
Incorporated 1790**

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Incorporated 1790**

156th Annual Report
of The Town of Somerset



For the Year Ending
December 31, 2016

IN MEMORIAM

COUNCIL ON AGING

Joseph Sheppard, Former Council on Aging Committee Member

LIBRARY

Helen Soares, Retired Library Assistant

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Joaquim “Jack” Alves, Retired Custodian

Edwin Cadorette, Retired Teacher

Linda Carvalho, Retired Administrative Assistant

Ellen Cunha, Retired School Psychologist

Azriel Estabrooks, Student

Franklin Gray, Retired Teacher

Elsie Lavey, Retired Cafeteria Worker

William Matte, Retired Teacher

Harriet Nunes, Retired Cafeteria Worker

Charles Quental, Retired Custodian

Nancy Salmon, Retired Teacher

Marilyn Souza, Retired School Committee Member

WATER DEPARTMENT

Joseph M. Gosselin, Retired Superintendent and Plant Manager

RETIREMENTS

COUNCIL ON AGING

Susan Olivera – Director’s Assistant

LIBRARY

Susan Hughey – Librarian

Ronald Ricci – Custodian

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jeffrey Cote – Lieutenant

Brian Page - Patrolman

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Christine Alves - Teacher
Linda Carvalho – Administrative Secretary
Janice Cranshaw – Administrative Secretary
Linda Dunnam – Teacher
Mary Silvia Farrissey – Teacher
Jane Larsen – Teacher
Dr. James Maguire – School Physician
David Sroczynski – Custodian
Barbara Violette – Teacher

WATER DEPARTMENT

Robert Cyr – Shift Operator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

To the residents of Somerset:

Greetings and please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for your interest in our town.

The Board of Selectmen is composed of three members, who are elected individuals entrusted with the responsibility to set policy and oversee the management of the community. The Board met in Open Session thirty-five times and met twenty-one times in Executive Session during 2016, to conduct town business. In addition, there were two town meetings held this year, Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting, as well as four elections. Members of the Board attended many subcommittee meetings of other boards, committees and commissions, in addition to attending conferences such as the Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show in Boston, which is considered the largest regular gathering of Massachusetts local government officials. The selectmen open session meetings are open to all interested residents and are broadcast live on cable television's community channel.

In May 2016, Holly McNamara was elected to a three year term. Following the town election, in accordance with tradition, the Board of Selectmen met and re-organized, welcoming Holly McNamara. Veteran Selectman David Berube was elected Chairman and Selectman Stephen Moniz was named Board of Health Chairman and Holly McNamara was elected Clerk of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board of Selectmen is the chief elected Board and governing body of the community. Amongst its many responsibilities and duties the Board establishes policies and practices, appoints individuals to boards and committees under their jurisdiction, serves as local licensing authority, represents the Town of Somerset in legal affairs, serves as the liaison to all committees and boards, preparation of the annual budget, warrant articles for Town Meeting approval, and establishes local Traffic Rules and Orders with input from the Police Chief and other officials.

The Board's biggest accomplishment in 2016 was holding the line on taxes with the average residential taxpayer and average commercial taxpayer seeing a small increase for this fiscal year, despite the decreasing revenues from the power plant. The town was able to go without a tax increase this year by inserting over four million of free cash, which is money left over from prior year budgets and unanticipated revenue, into an operating budget that had a structural deficit.

The following is a brief outline of some of the highlights, and key activities/decisions, that the Board of Selectmen were involved with during 2016:

- Adopted Policy on Use of Town Property
- Adopted Complete Street Policy
- Signed Cable TV Agreement with Somerset Berkley Regional High School

- Signed Agreement with GZA for Multi-Hazard Plan Development
- Updated the Board of Selectmen's CORI Policy
- Appointed Board of Survey Representatives
- Safe Free Exchange Zone established at the Police Department
- Transfer of ownership of the Warren Hathaway American Legion property
- Boat Ramp renovations at Waterfront Park
- Held 1st Annual Holiday Festival Event
- Held Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- Held 1st Annual Butterfly Release Event
- Held Somerset Open for Business Event
- Launched Nixle Alert program on the Town's website
- Met with state officials to discuss the impact of the closing of the Brayton Point power plant and explored options for reuse or re-development of the property.

The Board of Selectmen would like to express its appreciation to those residents who have provided assistance to the town as part of the Senior/Veterans Work-Off Program. Without their help, many projects would not have been completed on time due to the lack of sufficient staff time. In addition, the Board of Selectmen would like to acknowledge and thank the town residents that volunteer their time to the various Boards and Committees of the Town. The Board appreciates the time you donate, and values the knowledge and expertise that you contribute to our community.

An application for membership on various boards appointed by the Selectmen is available in the Town Administrator's office for residents who are willing to share their skills and experience through involvement in town committees and volunteer efforts. Through these efforts our community will continue to grow and prosper.

As we move forward into another year, we do so with the knowledge that much lies ahead of us and a myriad of projects wait our attention. We pledge to work to attain only the best for our community while remaining steadfast in our resolve to do so in a financially responsible manner. We encourage all to get involved and look forward to hearing your ideas and thoughts in the upcoming months. The Board of Selectmen encourages all residents of the Town to participate in Town government.

In closing, we extend our sincere appreciation to our Town Administrator, our office staff, and all Town employees for their cooperation, dedication and loyalty.

Respectfully Submitted,

Somerset Board of Selectmen
 David Berube, Chairman
 Steven Moniz, Board of Health Chairman
 Holly McNamara, Clerk

TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED

SELECTMEN

| | |
|---|------|
| David Berube, Chairman | 2017 |
| Steven Moniz, Board of Health Chair | 2018 |
| Holly E. McNamara, Clerk | 2019 |

MODERATOR

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Lucia M. Casey | 2017 |
|----------------------|------|

TOWN CLERK

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Dolores Berge | 2017 |
|---------------------|------|

ASSESSORS

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Marc Dionne | 2018 |
| Michael Correia, Chairman | 2017 |
| Stephanie Schecter, Clerk | 2019 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Arastou Mahjoory, Chairman | 2017 |
| Victor Machado | 2018 |
| Michael Botelho, Vice Chair | 2019 |
| Lori A. Rothwell | 2019 |
| Melissa Terra | 2017 |

SOMERSET-BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Richard Peirce, Chairman | 2019 |
| Julie Ramos-Gagliardi | 2018 |
| Stephanie Field, Vice Chairperson | 2017 |
| Lori Rothwell | (appointed member) |
| Michael Botelho | (appointed member) |

DIMAN REG. VOC. TECH. H.S. COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Donald M. DiBiasio | 2019 |
|--------------------------|------|

WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Scott O'Brien, Chairman | 2017 |
| Roger Benevides, Vice Chairman | 2018 |
| Joseph Bednarik, Clerk | 2019 |

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Eleanor Buckley, Vice Chairman | 2017 |
| David M. Cucinotta, Chairman | 2018 |
| Elizabeth Langfield | 2018 |
| Gayle Bradbury, Secretary | 2019 |

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Amanda L.Viana | 2019 |
| Kathleen Rubano | 2017 |

TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED

PLAYGROUND & RECREATION COMMISSION

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Richard Silvia, Clerk | 2019 |
| Maryellen Aspden | 2020 |
| James Pereira, Chairman | 2017 |
| Raymond Frizado | 2018 |
| Stephen Boland | 2021 |

PLANNING BOARD

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Gary Simons, Chairman | 2018 |
| Timothy Turner, Vice Chariman | 2019 |
| William F. Raposa Jr. | 2020 |
| Robert Rebello | 2021 |
| John W. Toulan, Clerk | 2017 |

SOMERSET HOUSING AUTHORITY

| | |
|---|------|
| Thomas Potter, Chairman | 2017 |
| Christopher Migneault, Commissioner | 2020 |
| Matthew Aspden, Vice Chairman | 2021 |
| Antone Soares, Jr., Asst. Treasurer | 2019 |
| Barry Sullivan, Treasurer (State appointed) | |

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Richard Brown

TOWN COUNSEL

Clement Brown, Esq.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT/FINANCE DIRECTOR

Joseph Bolton

TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Tammy Pacheco

SUPERINTENDENT WATER & WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Harold J. Gracia Jr.

SUPERINTENDENT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Brian Martin

HEALTH AGENT

Joseph Carvalho (Acting)

CONSERVATION AGENT

Timothy Turner (Interim Acting)

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

Bonnie Mendes

RECREATION DIRECTOR

Barry Fontaine

SEALER OF STANDARDS

Dennis Thibault

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Sherri Vale-Turner (R) 2019

Barry Sullivan (D) 2018

Joseph Costa (R) 2017

Dolores Berge, Clerk (D)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Antone Luciano 2017

Steven Cadorette, Chairman 2019

James J. Pimental, Clerk 2018

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

Barbara Smith (alternate) 2019
Sharron Schoonover Furtado (alternate) 2018 (Resigned 3/17/2016)

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Sheila Weinberg, Chairman 2017
Karen Doyle 2019
James O’Rourke, Jr. 2017
Kara Johnston 2018
Anthony Kucikas 2019
Agnes Doyle 2019

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Elizabeth Botelho

TREE WARDEN

Timothy Turner (Acting Tree Warden)

FENCE VIEWER/FIELD DRIVER

Paul Boucher

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING AGENT

Paul Boucher

WIRE INSPECTOR

David Tavares

ASSISTANT WIRE INSPECTOR

George W. Gauthier, Jr.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Scott O’Brien
Christopher Costa, Assistant

FOREST WARDEN

Scott H. Jepson

TOWN PHYSICIAN

Karen Smigel, M.D. (Resigned 3/31/2016) Dr.
Christopher Quinn (Appt).

TOWN NURSE

Emily Lachance

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

HARBOR MASTER

Robert Ganem
Dennis J. Mello (asst.)
David R. Messier (asst.)

VETERANS AGENT

Heather Cheetham

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Scott Jepson

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

Dolores Berge
Kathleen Maiato, Assistant

ADVISORY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Laurent Guay, Vice Chairman 2018
Christopher Godet, Chairman 2019
Virginia Wade 2018
Dominic Raffa 2017
Atty. Steven P. Sabra 2017
Michael Pasternak 2019
Darryl Forbes 2018 (resigned 9/22/16)
Bruce Coray 2017 (resigned 9/16/16)
Joseph F. Quin, Jr. 2018
Robert Mullen..... 2017 (appointed 10/04/16)
Doris Rousseau.....2018 (appointed 10/04/16)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Karen Smigel..... 2018
John V. Costa 2017
Ronald Lassonde, Chairman 2019
Robert Camara, Vice Chairman 2017
Matthew K. Talbot 2018
Timothy Turner, Clerk 2017
Joseph Duarte 2018

COUNCIL ON AGING

Director

Traci Thibault, Director
Susan Oliveira, Assistant Director

Council on Aging Board

John Dator 2019

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Marion Bower | 2018 |
| Joseph Sheppard..... | 2017 (Deceased 7/12/2016) |
| Lucia M. Casey | 2019 |
| Muriel Gamache..... | 2019 |
| Anthony Kucikas..... | 2018 |
| Joan Cowen..... | 2018 |
| Ann Marie Couture..... | 2017 (Appt. 10/19/2016) |

SOMERSET CULTURAL COUNCIL

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Matt Paquin | 2019 |
| Michael Monte, Treasurer..... | 2018 |
| Laurel Paquin, Chairperson..... | 2020 |
| Marybeth Rua-Larsen..... | 2020 |
| Laura Latour..... | 2022 |
| Emily Esten | 2022 |

DISABILITIES COORDINATOR

Paul Boucher

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| James Burke, Chairman | |
| Roger Benevides , Vice Chairman | |
| Bonnie Mendes, Secretary/Treasurer | |
| Arthur Gauthier | |
| James A. Velozo | |
| Timothy Turner | Edward Migneault |
| Lloyd Mendes | Roy Machado |
| Steven McNally | Shannon Burke-Martin |
| Joyce Mello | Sharron Machamer |
| Frances Thomas | Joseph Bednarik Jr. |

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| | |
|--|------|
| John Clorite | 2017 |
| Stephen P. Moniz (Public Safety) | 2017 |
| Joseph Flanagan | 2017 |
| Mary Murphy | 2017 |
| Cheryl Crossley-Simmons..... | 2017 |
| Jeffrey Schoonover (School K-8)..... | 2017 |
| Richard Peirce (SBRHS)..... | 2017 |

**MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR GREATER FALL RIVER
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Richard Brown

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

| | |
|--|------|
| James O'Rourke, Chairman | 2017 |
| Richard Brown, Member at Large..... | 2017 |
| James Pereira, Recreation Commissioner..... | 2017 |
| Steven Moniz, Parks Commissioner | 2017 |
| Gary Simons, Planning Board..... | 2017 |
| Timothy Turner, Conservation Commission..... | 2017 |
| Antone Soares Jr., Housing Authority..... | 2017 |

SOMERSET POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF

George McNeil

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPTAIN

Stephen P. Moniz

LIEUTENANT

Glen Neto
Jeffrey Cote (Retired 1/6/2016)
Jay Borges (Appt. 1/6/2016)

DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT

SERGEANT

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Todd V. Costa | Matthew Reis |
| Tracey Costa | Kevin Borges |

DETECTIVE SERGEANT

Jason Matos

DETECTIVE

Nicholas Davidson

PATROLMAN

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

Brian M. Page (Retired June 15, 2016)
Paul S. Trenholme
William R. Tedford
Christopher R. Phenix
Raymond Almeida, Jr. Jared
J. Linhares
David G. Labreche
Keith Wilkinson
Adam G. DaRosa
Ryan Toolin
Brendan Hague

Brian Dempsey
Gerard Guimond
Donald Cormier
Matthew Lima
Daniel Williams
Christopher Magan
James B. Roberts
Shaun P. Kelly
James Cardella
Russell Bezanson

SOMERSET FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF

Scott H. Jepson

DEPUTY CHIEF

Paul Paquette

LIEUTENANT

Rene Thibault
Shawn Kerrigan
Scott Sylvester
Jason Phillips

Paul A. Paquette
Paul B. Thibault
Jamison Barros

FIREFIGHTERS

Michael L. Chagnon
Donald M. Dionne
Scott J. Benevides
Steven P. Silva John
W. Accord Jr.
Marcel Dube
Ronald R. Audette
William Rodrigues
Jerry A. Cunha
Craig Costa
John R. Soares
Curt Scherny

Todd J. Arruda
Ann Marie Peckham
Kory Koster
Jeffrey Langlois
John Sulyma
Carlton Dort
Jason Berube
Jordan DeMelo
Joshua Adams
Aaron Fisher
Robert Durette
Robert Doar

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

It is my pleasure to submit my second annual report to you as your Town Administrator. It is an honor and privilege to serve as the Town Administrator for the Town of Somerset.

I would like to begin by expression my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of the dedicated town employees, elected officials and numerous volunteers who serve on the many boards, commissions, and committees for all their hard work and commitment in making the town of Somerset a better community in which to live.

The Town Administrator manages the daily operations of the Selectmen's office, and is the administrative supervisor of department heads appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Town Administrator also coordinates the purchasing activities and serves as the Personnel Director and Parking Clerk.

2016 was a very busy and productive year. Through the combine efforts of the Board and the Town Administrator a number of projects and initiatives were completed including:

- Adoption of Policy on Use of Town Property
- Receive RGGI Funds
- Adoption of Complete Street Policy
- Signed Cable TV Agreement with Somerset Berkley Regional High School
- Signed Agreement with GZA for Multi-Hazard Plan Development
- Appointment of the Board of Survey Representatives
- Boat Ramp Renovations at Waterfront Park Completed
- Launched Nixle Alert Program
- Participated in Somerset Open for Business Events
- Transfer of Ownership of the Warren Hathaway American Legion Property
- Continued with the Rehabilitation of Town Hall Office Space
- Enhanced Pedestrian Safety with Crosswalk Improvements

In addition, there were two town meetings held this year and four elections. The town's public officials are committed to providing the residents and visitors of Somerset prompt, courteous, and knowledgeable customer service, while retaining cost efficiency as a priority. We will continue to maintain core services while considering new initiatives that will improve current practices.

As we move forward, we will continue to provide the residents of Somerset a local government that is transparent and open. As part of the Openness and Transparency initiative, you can find on the town's website links to financial tracking and budget documents, online bill paying services, contact information, weekly meeting agendas and meeting minutes. As our capabilities expand, and as technology improves more expanded content will become available on the Town's website. Please feel free to write, e-mail, or stop by my office with any questions, concerns or comments. We encourage residents to take an active role in the development of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M Brown

TOWN CLERK

The population for the Town of Somerset according to the 2016 Annual Town Census was 17,056. The total number of registered voters in the Town of Somerset reported per election in 2016 is as follows:

March 1, 2016 – 12,960

May 9, 2016 – 13,039

September 8, 2016 – 13,127

November 8, 2016 – 13,475

Our office has taken full advantage of the Town's website, www.townofsomerset.org by providing residents with as much up to date information regarding the services we provide, along with informative postings of meeting notices, election information, trash pick-up information, campaign finance information, marriage license information and fees related to our services.

I am very pleased to say that our office has been able to take advantage of the Senior/Veteran Work-Off Program. To date, our office utilizes 8 residents from this program. They have been a wonderful asset to our office especially during the busy times such as during census and elections. In addition, the participants have been working on organizing and filing in archival binders and sleeves the original vital records of Births, Deaths, and Marriages from 1790 – 1965. I would like to thank Sharon Wiggins, Darlene Helm, Shelagh Taylor, Arlene Harnett, Virginia Levesque, Veronica Kotlarski, Mary Martha Murphy, and George Tripp for their contributions to the Office.

The Office of the Town Clerk offers many services on a walk-in basis to the residents, such as, issuing marriage licenses; sporting licenses; dog licenses; transfer station passes; certified copies of birth, marriage, and death certificates; voter registration; absentee ballot applications; and raffle and bazaar permits. In addition, the Office of the Town Clerk serves as the filing/clerical office for the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the filing office for the Planning Board. Residents can also obtain Town Meeting warrants, sample ballots for elections, street maps, annual reports and the annual street list (\$10) in our office.

The Office of the Town Clerk is currently responsible for the sale of cemetery lots at the Nathan Slade Cemetery. Over the year, we have opened two more new sections making 2 grave lots and 4 grave lots available for sale. Cemetery lots are currently sold to current and former Somerset residents at \$450.00 each. Ongoing maintenance continues at the cemetery, including repairs to fallen stones.

Our office is pleased to continue to sell sporting licenses, freshwater fishing licenses and saltwater recreational fishing licenses to area residents. With the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife’s implementation of on-line purchasing only, many of our neighboring communities chose to eliminate this as a service. We have welcomed customers from the surrounding area and encourage them to continue to take advantage of this service that Somerset offers.

As the Chief Election official of the Town of Somerset, the Town Clerk serves as the liaison office of the Board of Registrars and maintains voter registrations and all materials related to elections. The Town Clerk is responsible for the coordinating and administrating all local and State elections.

As required by Massachusetts General Laws, minutes of the Annual Town Meeting, Special Town Meetings and all election results for the year were permanently recorded in the Town records.

During the calendar year of 2016, the following were issued:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Dog Licenses | 388 |
| Raffle & Bazaar Permits | 3 |
| Zoning Variances and/or Special Permits | 18 |
| Business Certificates | |
| Issued | 53 |
| Withdrawn | 9 |
| Graves sold | 26 |
| Burial Permits issued | 126 |
| Deaths recorded | 244 |
| Births recorded | 105 |
| Marriages Intentions filed | 94 |
| Marriage Certificates Issued | 88 |
| Sporting Licenses: | |
| Sporting | 50 |
| Hunting | 16 |
| Freshwater Fishing | 52 |
| Saltwater Fishing | 106 |

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Berge, CMMC - Town Clerk

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The Town of Somerset Board of Registrars hereby report that residents eligible to vote in Elections and at Town Meetings in the year 2016 as of December 31, was 13,475, reflecting a significant increase in registered voters as 2016 was a Presidential Election year. 2016 was a very busy year for the Board of Registrars. There were three State elections and the Annual Town Election over the course of the year. This year, Early Voting was implemented by the Secretary of the Commonwealth for the November 8 State Election. There were 3,586 voters in Somerset who took advantage of Early Voting, over 26% of the registered voters. The Town Clerk, in her capacity of Chief Election Official of the Town of Somerset implemented Early Voting under the Early Voting Laws and coordinated and administered all elections successfully. Funding was approved in 2016 for the purchase of new voting booths to replace the old wooden style 50 year old booths. They will be in place for the 2017 election.

Following the Annual Town Census taken during the month of January, the Town's population was 17,056. Voter registration sessions were held as required by Massachusetts General Laws prior to Elections and Town Meetings. All Election and Town Meeting results were duly submitted and recorded in the Office of the Town Clerk. In addition to the elections, the Board of Registrars certified nomination papers and signatures on petitions as required by law.

Elections and Town Meetings were held during the year 2016:

Presidential Primary Election – March 1 – 5,046 ballots cast (39%)

Annual Town Election – May 9 – 3,601 ballots cast (28%)

State Primary Election – September 8 – 483 ballots cast (3.7%)

State (Presidential) Election – November 8 – 10,277 ballots cast (76.1%)

Annual Town Meeting - May 16

Special Town Meeting – May 16

Special Town Meeting – November 14

As required by MGL, all election results and actions taken at Annual and Special Town Meetings were permanently recorded in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Registrars

Sherri Vale-Turner (R)

Barry Sullivan (D)

Joseph Costa (R)

Dolores Berge, Clerk (D)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

During the year 2016, 18 applications for variances, special permits, planned developments or comprehensive permits were filed with the Town Clerk. The Board held public hearings, as required by law, to act upon these requests. After rendering their decisions, they were placed on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

The first Zoning Bylaw was adopted at the Town Meeting held June 27, 1955. Since the first bylaws were adopted, the Town has continued to update the Zoning Bylaws as necessary by Town Meeting votes as required by Massachusetts General Laws. All favorably voted amendments to the Zoning Bylaw and maps are forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General for approval as required by law.

The Zoning By-law and official Zoning Map are now available on our website www.townofsomerset.org under Departments - Zoning Board of Appeals. In addition, all applications, instructions and agendas for public hearings are posted on the website. All applications are also available in The Office of the Town Clerk and are filed there as well. The Town Clerk's office also has Zoning Bylaws and Maps available for purchase.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Cadorette, Chairman

James Pimental, Clerk

Antone Lucianno,

Barbara Smith, Alternate

Sharron Schoonover Furtado, Alternate (Resigned 3/17/16)

Kathleen Maiato, Clerical

ASSESSORS REPORT

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

2016 Annual Report

For Fiscal Year ending June 30 2016.

| | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Number of Dwellings | 6440 | 6451 |
| Number of Parcels taxed | 7137 | 7160 |
| Population | 17090 | 17056 |

Exemptions and Abatements Granted

| | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Disabled Veterans | 183 | 192 |
| Blind | 17 | 20 |
| Surviving Spouse, Elderly | 70 | 62 |
| Elderly | 269 | 257 |
| Other (ABATEMENTS) | 61 | 80 |

Property exempt from taxation under provisions of Clause 11, Section 5, Chapter 59 General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

| | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Schools | 103,511,700.00 | 103,511,700.00 |
| Housing Authority Property | 9,713,000.00 | 7,077,100.00 |
| Church Properties / Including Cemeteries | 12,062,200.00 | 12,062,200.00 |
| Library | 2,232,600.00 | 2,373,500.00 |
| Police & Fire Station | 2,481,000.00 | 2,481,000.00 |

ASSESSORS REPORT

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Highway | 2,714,100.00 | |
| Department | | 2,431,400.00 |
| Town Hall | 1,177,400.00 | |
| | | 1,341,800.00 |
| Sewer Department Properties | 19,718,900.00 | |
| | | 18,241,400.00 |
| Water Department Properties | 7,538,400.00 | |
| | | 6,597,200.00 |
| Conservation | 10,591,600.00 | |
| | | 9,150,800.00 |
| Comm of MA | 6,408,000.00 | |
| | | 6,408,000.00 |
| Comm. Of Ma Div. Of Fish & Wildlife | 8,900.00 | 8,900.00 |
| American Legion | 292,900.00 | |
| | | 291,200.00 |
| Amvets | 483,700.00 | |
| | | 499,400.00 |
| Other Town owned Land & Bldgs | 31,996,900.00 | |
| | | 31,996,900.00 |
| Stevens Home for Boys | 765,800.00 | |
| | | 765,800.00 |
| Bristol County | 356,600.00 | |
| | | 375,300.00 |

RECAPITULATION

| | FY15 | FY2016 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Amount to be Raised | 62,600,467.74 | 60,574,057.99 |
| Estimated Receipts and | 24,402,105.70 | 22,348,325.27 |
| Available Funds | | |
| Amount to be Raised | 38,198,362.04 | 38,225,732.72 |
| By Taxation | | |

ASSESSORS REPORT

| VALUATIONS | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Real Property | 1,820,206,600.00 | 1,896,058,800.00 |
| Personal Property | 209,991,490.00 | 174,348,830.00 |
| Total | 2,030,198,090.00 | 2,070,407,630.00 |

| TAX LEVY | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Real Property | 31,955,315.04 | 33,204,486.42 |
| Personal Property | 6,243,047.00 | 5,021,246.30 |
| Total | 38,198,362.04 | 38,225,732.72 |

| TAX RATES | FY2015 | FY2016 |
|-------------|--------|--------|
| Residential | 17.35 | 17.51 |
| Commercial | 29.98 | 29.06 |
| Industrial | 29.98 | 29.06 |

ASSESSORS REPORT

Personal Property

29.73

28.80

Residential exemption of \$24,861 was granted to all owner occupied properties in the residential Class for Fiscal 2016 tax period.

In May of 2016, the town voted to accept chapter 73, Section 4, acts of 1986, as amended by chapter 126 of the acts of 1988, to allow an additional exemption which shall be uniform for all exemptions which none shall exceed 75% of said exemptions.

It is our pleasure to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S. Correia, Chairman
Stephanie Schecter, Clerk to the Board
Marc W. Dionne, Third Member
Pamela M. Lee, MAA Principal Assessor
Nancy B. Fournier, Clerk

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Enclosed, herewith is my Annual Report as Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Somerset for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Included in this report is a list of Fund Balances, Total Revenues, as well as a list of Collected/Uncollected Taxes for Fiscal Year 2016.

Fiscal Year 2016 was a year of continued progress. Per the recommendations of our Auditor's, as well as the Department of Revenue, we implemented standardized departmental payroll vouchers and began the process of maintaining personal time balances in the payroll system. Also, according to their recommendation, we began the Tailings process for all uncashed checks per MGL c. 200A, §9A.

In April, 2016 a Health Fair was held at the Somerset Berkley Regional High School for all town employees. We also began reporting and filing employee health insurance data per the Affordable Care Act.

Tax Takings were performed for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 for unpaid real estate taxes. The FY14 Tax Taking totaled \$54,114.76 and consisted of 23 properties. The FY15 Tax Taking totaled \$50,245.04 and consisted of 24 properties. In Fiscal Year 2016 there were a total of 77 properties in Tax Title, with a tax receivable balance of \$1,156,749.32. Payments made on Tax Title accounts, including penalties, interest and fees, were \$62,275.07 and we had 10 property owners pay off all outstanding taxes and redeem their property out of Tax Title.

For the convenience of our taxpayers, we offer online payments through InvoiceCloud, which can be found on the town's website at TownofSomerset.org

I would again like to express my sincere appreciation to my team; Suzanne Freitas, Assistant Collector; Patricia Rodrick, Assistant Treasurer; and Susan LePage, Payroll Clerk, for their hard work and dedication as well as Amy Messier, Senior Floater, for her assistance. We have an outstanding team that works hard to serve its employees as well as the citizens of the Town and I am proud of their commitment.

I am honored to serve as your Treasurer/Collector.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy M. Pacheco
Treasurer/Collector

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016

TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED:

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 2016 Real Estate | 32,557,905.33 | 2016 Personal Property | |
| 4,990,990.56 | 2016 Motor Vehicle Excise | 2,272,836.19 | |
| 2016 Boat Excise | 4,343.34 | | |
| Penalties & Interest (Real Estate, Personal Property, Excise) | 192,751.14 | | |
| TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED | 40,018,826.56 | \$ | 40,018,826.56 |

MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTED:

| | | | | | |
|--|----|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Tax Titles | \$ | 44,962.39 | | | |
| Penalties & Interest (Tax Titles) | \$ | 16,957.60 | | | |
| Municipal Lien Certificates | \$ | 24,200.00 | | | |
| Licenses, Permits and Fees | \$ | 449,767.00 | | | |
| Charges for Services/Other Departmental Revenues | \$ | 303,340.00 | | | |
| Court Fines | \$ | 70,865.21 | Hotel/Motel Taxes | \$ | 107,134.72 |
| Total Revenues from State | \$ | 7,094,588.40 | Miscellaneous Revenues | \$ | 3,845,341.00 |
| TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTED | \$ | 11,957,156.32 | \$ | 11,957,156.32 | |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES | | | | \$ | 51,975,982.88 |

UNCOLLECTED TAXES:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|----|--|
| Real Estate Taxes | \$ | 576,171.95 | Personal Property Taxes | \$ | |
| 21,192.12 | Excise Taxes | \$ | 152,795.75 | | |
| TOTAL UNCOLLECTED TAXES | \$ | 750,159.82 | | | |

SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

FUND BALANCES

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|--------------|
| Stabilization Fund | \$ | 9,014,905.04 |
| Cemetery Trust Fund | \$ | 343,450.44 |
| Retirement Fund | \$ | 858,999.60 |
| Unemployment Fund | \$ | 57,707.44 |
| Kevin R. Teves Library Trust | \$ | 15,742.36 |
| Land Acquisition Account | \$ | 33,208.07 |
| OPEB (Other Post employment Benefits) | \$ | 795,205.14 |

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| TOTALS | \$ | 11,119,218.09 |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|

The activity of the Somerset Economic Development Committee (SEDC) during 2016 was, to a great extent, focused on a continuation of the initiatives previously established.

The committee officers remained as follows: Chairman, Jim Burke; Vice Chairman, Roger Benevides; and Secretary/Treasurer, Bonnie Mendes. There are 12 total committee members.

The following mission statement still best defines the objective of the committee:

“The Somerset Economic Development Committee exists to improve the economic condition of local residents and businesses and to enhance the community's quality of life as a whole. It will do this by attracting new businesses and industry, by retaining and making it convenient to expand existing businesses and industry, and by improving business conditions that enhance entrepreneurial activity. It will also recognize those individuals and businesses who have contributed to the community by making it a better place to live.”

The committee is organized into subcommittees/working groups to better address initiatives. These subcommittees are: Route 6 Town Owned Land Development; Power Plant Transition Support; Slade's Ferry Crossing District Development; Somerset/SEDC Web Site Support; New Business Prospecting and Marketing; Permitting Process Support; Existing Business Ambassadorship; and a Steering Subcommittee.

During the year the full committee met ten times; in addition, there were many informal subcommittee meetings.

The following is a summary of the activity and initiatives currently in process by the committee:

- Proactively contacting various businesses and industries, both domestic and foreign, regarding development opportunities in Somerset.
- Promoting existing local businesses through the ambassadorship program.
- Assisting businesses during their permitting process.
- Providing business-related information, such as available properties, via our website.
- Supporting the development of the town owned land on Routes 6 and 103.
- Maintaining a positive working relationship with SRPEDD, State Officials, and other individuals and organizations involved with economic development.
- Advocating for economic development at selectman and other town committee meetings.

SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

More specifically in 2016, the SEDC:

- Conducted a top 10 favorite Somerset businesses contest to help support local businesses.
- Initiated the award of the Peter B. Sabra Humanitarian Award to John Dator.
- Continued the support of the enhancement of the Slade's Ferry Crossing District, including initiating the street name change from the old GAR Highway to Slade's Ferry Boulevard and requesting permission from the state to place signage along the new GAR Highway/Route 6 pointing to the district.
- Promoted and supported several ribbon cutting ceremonies for new and expanding local businesses.
- Recommended investigating potential upgrades to the town signage ByLaws.
- Promoted existing businesses and educated tax payers at the Spirit Of Somerset celebration.
- Collaborated with numerous state officials including Representative Patricia Haddad, Deputy Secretary of Housing and Economic Affairs Caroline Kirk, and Business Development Initiatives Representative Ann Margaret Ferrante, as well as the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee and the Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce, on a business development open house that was held in May 2016. The "Somerset Open For Business" promotional video produced for this event can be viewed on the SEDC page of the Somerset web site.
- Created a booklet of resources and available properties, both town-owned and privately held, for developers and entrepreneurs looking to invest in our community.
- Spearheaded the rezoning of properties along the Route 6 corridor to facilitate potential future business development.
- Recommended obtaining the services of a Professional Commercial Real Estate Agent to support the marketing and sale of the town owned land on Route 6.
- Promoted transportation and associated parking improvements including South Coast Rail, SRTA commuter connections, and local traffic coordination.
- Attended the Commercial Marine Expo in New Bedford to publicize Somerset's two deep water harbors and to seek insights from marine businesses.
- Attended a casino jobs fair and provided information on potential job opportunities to Somerset residents via local newspapers.

- Promoted the use of the services of the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation for financing and other small business assistance.
- Prepared a draft update to “ A Guide To Somerset And It's Services” for review by town departments.

In conclusion, the SEDC in our advisory capacity is endeavoring to set appropriate objectives, establish priorities, and do our best to help address the significant economic challenges facing Somerset. As the committee stated last year, in order to be successful going forward we need the continued support of the residents of the town as we adjust to the reduction in the revenue from the two power plants. Your thoughtful consideration and, as appropriate, support of potential options that are proposed to address future revenue sources for Somerset will be needed to achieve the goal of reaching financial stability and to maintain the quality of life we have enjoyed in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

James Burke, Chairman

SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Advisory & Finance Committee is a group of nine community members appointed by the Town Moderator. Each member is appointed for a three year term. In accordance with Chapter 39, Section 16 of the Massachusetts General Laws, it is the purpose of this committee to make reports or recommendations to the town that impact on the town's revenues. The members represent a cross-section of our diverse community with unique educational backgrounds and personal perspectives.

Our meetings are open to the public and are posted at the Town Hall, as well as advertised in our local paper. We welcome citizen input to assist us in evaluating the needs of our community.

The Advisory & Finance Committee meets on an average of once weekly during budget season, with additional meetings as necessary, in anticipation of any Special Town Meeting, and to address any reserve fund transfers at any time during the year. Each budget is reviewed carefully to insure fiscal responsibility. Each member of this committee takes their responsibility seriously, and carefully considers spending requests and their economic impact on the taxpayer.

Somerset has been faced with many difficult financial decisions in the past several years, and will face certain tax increases, coupled with spending restrictions in the coming year. The Town continues to attempt to maintain level services in the face of decreasing revenue.

Somerset has always taken pride in its buildings and infrastructure, as well as the high level of services enjoyed by the residents. As our buildings and infrastructure age, the continued upgrade and/or replacement of these assets becomes costly. The continued maintenance and upgrade of Somerset's assets and infrastructure is necessary, however, to continue the high level of Town services available to the residents of Somerset.

The Advisory & Finance Committee is pleased to report that the annual budget has met our standards of being fiscally responsible and believes that great efforts were made in maintaining a prudent and cautious approach in disbursement of revenues.

We are proud to serve our community, and will continue to work diligently on behalf of the Town of Somerset.

Christopher Godet, Chair
Nick Raffa, Vice Chair
Virginia Wade, Secretary
Laurent R. Guay
Atty. Steven Sabra
Darryl Forbes

Bruce Coray
Joseph Quin
Mike Pasternak

BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD

BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT
38R FOREST STREET * ATTLEBORO, MA 02703
Tel: (508) 823-5253 * Fax: (508) 828-1868

ANNUAL REPORT – SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

This year marks the 57th anniversary of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project and its services to the cities and towns of Bristol County. The project was established in 1959 in response to numerous cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis. In 2000 Bristol County saw the introduction of West Nile Virus into the area. Over the years, our project has greatly reduced exposure to these arboviruses.

Much has changed in recent years with new technologies and products now available to help monitor and suppress the presence of mosquito borne diseases. Our project has embraced new innovations to help us serve the public with greater efficiency. We utilize GPS guidance systems on our spray trucks enabling our technicians to effectively schedule and conduct early morning applications and document application routes. We have also adopted more environmentally responsible products for our larvicide and adulticide applications. We did this in order to be a better steward of the environment and reduce any unwanted effect on non-target organisms. We still continue our practice of surveillance through trapping and sending specimens to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for testing.

During the 2016-mosquito season, 15,877 mosquitoes were tested for the mosquito borne viruses EEE and WNV. There were no isolations of EEE with no human cases in the County. We had eight (8) mosquito isolates of WNV in the County with no reported human cases. There were no equine cases for EEE or WNV.

Our project continues its efforts year round to reduce mosquito breeding areas through water management and source reduction. Our goal is to remove debris, silt and vegetation from drainage ditches to improve water flow, thus eliminating standing water conducive to larval development.

During the time period January 1, 2016– December 31, 2016 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project:

- Sprayed over 7,092 acres
- Treated 16.25 acres in 24 locations with *B.t.i.* for mosquito larvae
- Received 158 requests for spraying
- Cleared and reclaimed 1,780 feet of brush

- Treated 960 catch basins

BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Throughout the year, we strive to educate the public concerning mosquito borne diseases and simple ways people can protect themselves and help prevent breeding on their own property. We have many types of outreach programs including; speaking at public health events, visiting local schools and senior centers, and creating informational handouts for distribution. Be sure to check out our website: www.mass.gov/eea/bristolcountymosquitocontrol for updates and information.

I would like to thank the town officials and residents of Somerset for their continued support and cooperation. Our project is extremely proud of the work we perform and look forward to serving our communities in the upcoming year. If there are any questions concerning the projects efforts or objectives, please feel free to contact our office.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Matton
Superintendent
January 3, 2017

Bristol County Mosquito Control Commissioners:

Arthur F. Tobin, Chairman
Gregory D. Dorrance
Joseph Barile
Christine A. Fagan
Robert F. Davis

SOMERSET PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report for the Year 2016

| | |
|---|---------|
| Number of items in the collection (includes electronic media) | 142,239 |
| New Library Cards issued | 540 |
| Number of register patrons | 9,366 |
| Number of items circulated (includes electronic media) | 109,210 |
| Website "hits" | 148,938 |
| Meeting Room use - Number of meetings | 810 |

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Total Attendance | 97,166 |
|------------------|--------|

There is a misconception that books are disappearing and the need for public libraries is diminishing. Nationwide studies indicate that this is not the trend and the Somerset Public Library proves this as we continue to be a vital, important service to the town of Somerset.

The Somerset Public Library offers a variety of services, not just the traditional lending of books. We are a technology center, a resource for small business, a source for job seekers, a one-stop research center whether it is for health information, legal information, DIY projects, or life-long learning. We are a teen center, a space for families, a community facility and a music and arts center. Services are available 24/7 and we urge you to visit our website www.somersetpubliclibrary.org to learn more.

Our five year long range plan has been submitted to the state and our goal, among many, is to be a certified public library open as many hours as fiscally possible. We will continue to grow with the needs of the community.

My sincere gratitude goes to many people who make our success possible. The local businesses who so graciously donated to us in 2016 (visit our website for a list), the Somerset Cultural Council, the Hathaway Memorial Charitable Trust, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the SAILS Library Network and the Friends of the Somerset Public Library. I acknowledge our local and state officials for their support and guidance and of course my Board of Library Trustees. Our patrons are the best and we aspire to do even more for them in 2017. Nothing would be accomplished however without my dedicated, committed library staff; whether, behind the scenes or at the public desk, they are the heart and soul of the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Mendes, Library Director

2016 Retirements
 Susan Hughey – Librarian
 Ronald Ricci - Custodian

SOMERSET LIBRARY TRUSTEES

We have completed another year of changes, additions, beginnings, endings and successes. Physically, Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School students completed the reconstruction and move of the circulation desk. It is now larger and in perfect position for the staff to help patrons and observe the entire library. The move created enhanced space for the Friends of the Library's Book Sale and allowed us to set up a comfortable reading area complete with brewed coffee for sale, the proceeds going to the FOL. Also, due to a BayCoast Bank donation of \$5,000, children's area improvements will be made this year.

We had important personnel changes with the retirement of Ron Ricci as custodian and Sue Hughey who had served as Reference Librarian and Children's Librarian. Chris Matos was appointed Full-Time Librarian and Taylor Silvia was appointed Reference and Young Adult Librarian.

We were able to install several new equipment pieces including a Flat Screen TV for the Captain's Community Room and a public fax machine is now available. And due to a Hathaway Memorial Charitable Trust award of \$6,800, we now have a Microfilm Reader-Printer.

Added to our website offerings are Blockbuster Movies and Hoopla Digital Services which is a revolutionary digital service which allows borrowing e-books, audiobooks, graphic novels, movies, music and television from our website.

New programs and clubs have been introduced including *Family Adventures in Reading* program from a grant from *Massachusetts Humanities* and a Scrabble Club.

Of special note is the "Mind in the Making" program which began in October due to a \$10,000. LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) awarded grant written by Librarian Chris Matos and Director Mendes.

We have a new kind of library in our library – it's called *Stuffbrary*, a collection of many useful things which may be borrowed from the library– it includes dozens of Special Cake Pans, Cookie Cutters of all shapes, Bird Watching Kits, Home Project Kits, a Nature With Kids Kit, Travel Games for the Family Kit, a Ukulele with CD instructions and an Electronic Piano Keyboard.

Our summer reading program was particularly successful. “On You Mark, Get Set, Read” designed and managed by Children’s Librarian Chris Matos, this program attracted 971 children of which 235 children recorded books read. This is quite notable for a library of our size.

The Friends of the Library marked their first Annual Friends of the Library Craft Fair, published a successful Friends of the Library Cookbook and expanded their very popular Book Sale offerings.

The Library Director, Staff and Trustees participated in several community outreach affairs including *Spirit of Somerset*, Library Legislation Day, the Library Showcase at Bristol Community College, and held several local author visits and booksignings.

It should be added that Dr. David M. Cucinotta, a Somerset Public Library Trustee for 46 years, was awarded the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association “Trustee of the Year – 2016”. This not only honors Dr. Cucinotta, it honors the Town of Somerset.

Respectfully submitted;

David M. Cucinotta, Chairman
Gayle Bradbury
Eleanor Buckley
Elizabeth Langfield
Kathleen Rubano
Amanda Viana

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board is a five member elected board who serve five year staggered terms. The Board typically meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the first floor hearing room at the town office all meetings are open to the public and begin at 6:00 PM. Planning Board meetings usually may be seen on channel 15 on Mondays at 7:00 P.M. and Tuesdays at 1:00 P.M.

During the calendar year of 2016, the Board held thirteen meetings and reviewed a total of ten plans and two amendments to the Zoning By-law. Applications reviewed by the Planning Board include division of land creating new lots on existing/approved ways (ANR Plans); Planned Development for construction on lot with more than one business; Special Permit for construction in the Water Resource Protection District and Special Permit for construction in the Water Shed Protection District; In 2016, the Planning Board endorsed ten Form A Plans resulting in eleven new lots; acted on a Special Permit for an addition in the Water Resource Protection District and an in-ground pool in the Water Shed Protection District. Planned Development recommendations during 2016, include a revised plan for property at 899 Grand Army Highway. The board acted on two proposed zoning amendments and issued favorable recommendations on the two proposed amendments after holding public hearings on the matter.

During this year, Gary Simons who has served on the Board for the past fifteen years served as chair and longtime member Timothy Turner was appointed Vice-Chair, with John Toulan appointed Clerk. In addition to their Planning Board duties, Gary Simons was designated as the Board's representative to the Coastal Zone Management Committee and Community Preservation Committee. Robert Rebello was designated as the Planning Board's representative to the Land Acquisition Committee.

Special thanks to the Somerset Access TV for providing televised access to Somerset residents. The Board also wishes to express sincere thanks for the support and cooperation that it has received from Town Officials and members of the various Boards and Departments. And of course, many thanks to our secretary, Paula Ramos, for her support throughout the year. The Board members review plans submitted to ensure the proposed developments are in accordance with the bylaws and regulations of the Town. Many other Boards and Departments provide input to this review process. The Board relies on outside consultants to assist in technical review of many of the projects. The cost of these outside consultants falls to the developer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary D. Simons, Chairman
Timothy Turner, Vice-Chairman
John Toulan, Clerk

Robert Rebello
William Raposa

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Somerset Historical Commission (“the Commission”) was established by a vote of Somerset Town Meeting on March 9, 1964. Members are appointed to three year terms by the Board of Selectmen. Its purpose is to preserve, protect and develop the historic assets of the Town of Somerset.

The Commission’s primary focus continues to be the preservation and restoration of the Friends Meeting House on Prospect Street. In 2014 the Meeting House was the first structure in Somerset to be included on the National Register of Historic Places. This is the oldest Quaker Meeting House in Massachusetts and possibly in New England. The Town of Somerset applied for a Community Preservation Act grant to repair, restore and repair the roof of the building and the application secured the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee. The recommendation was subsequently approved at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

The Old Town Hall, built in 1871 on its current County Street site, is another of Somerset’s historic assets. An architect, Christopher Wise of Westport, conducted a feasibility study for the renovation of the exterior of the building. The bulk of the funding for the study was provided by a grant by the Hathaway Memorial Charitable Trust. A report on the study was submitted by Mr. Wise on May 2nd. A copy of the report can be found on the Historical Commission’s section of the town’s website. On August 17th, the Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to support the implementation of the findings contained in the report. In the fall, the Commission filed an application for Community Preservation funding to implement several of the recommendations of the architect. The Community Preservation Committee will act on the application in early 2017.

The Commission voted to apply to the Massachusetts Historical Commission to have the Village neighborhood nominated as a National Historic District. On August 17th, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to support the application. The Commission filed a Letter of Intent to apply for a Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) Survey Grant for funds to pay for a consultant to undertake the nomination process. By letter dated December 16th, the MHC invited the Commission to file a full application for the project. The full application will be filed by February 6, 2017.

In September, members of the Commission staffed a booth at The Spirit of Somerset celebration to offer information and answer questions about the Commission’s activities.

The Historical Commission and the office of the building inspector are responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Preservation of Historically Significant Buildings Bylaw, adapted by the Annual Town Meeting in 2004.

Several applications for a demolition permit bylaw were the subject of hearings before the Commission. None resulted in a determination that demolition should be delayed under the terms of the bylaw.

James O'Rourke was voted to continue to represent our Commission on the Community Preservation Committee.

Members of the Somerset Historical Commission believe that its efforts to maintain the town's centuries old heritage will benefit current residents and future generations of residents as well.

The Commission generally meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the History Room of the Somerset Public Library. The public is always welcome to attend and to assist us in reaching our goals. Please check the town website to confirm the date and time of meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. O'Rourke Jr., Chairman and Secretary
Sheila Weinberg, Vice Chairman
Anthony Kucikas, Treasurer
Karen Doyle
Agnes Doyle
Ryan Pacheco
Derek Richard

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The citizens of the Town of Somerset adopted the Community Preservation Act (Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B) at Town Meeting on November 6, 2012. The Community Preservation Committee (“the committee”) is established in accordance with sections 3-7 of the Act.

The committee studies the needs, possibilities and resources of the town regarding community preservation. The committee consults with various agencies, organizations and/or individuals, and particularly those represented on the committee, in conducting such studies. The committee makes recommendations to town meeting for: the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; for the acquisition and preservation of historic resources; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use; for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; and for rehabilitation or restoration of such open space, historic resources, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created as provided in this section. With respect to community housing, the committee recommends, whenever possible, the reuse of existing buildings or construction of new building on previously developed sites.

As part of its study, the committee holds at least one public information hearing each year on the needs, possibilities and resources of the town regarding community preservation possibilities and resources of the town. This year’s public information hearing was held on June 9th. The committee thereafter voted to revise the Somerset Community Preservation Act Plan. A copy of the revised plan can be found on the Community Preservation Committee’s section of the town website.

The committee consists of 7 members. The members include an appointed designee from each of the following: the Conservation Commission; the Historical Commission; the Planning Board; the Playground and Recreation Commission; the Somerset Housing Authority; and the Board of Parks Commissioners. There is also 1 member-at-large from the community.

The committee makes recommendations to town meetings for funding community preservation acquisitions, initiatives and administration. This year the committee reviewed applications for funding and recommended that seven (7) projects be funded. All seven of the recommended projects were approved at the Town Meeting in May. The projects and their funding amounts are as follows:

1. Somerset Baseball League – installation of lighting on Field One at the South Complex Fields - \$55,000.00.
2. Somerset Housing Authority – preparation of a feasibility study to convert the former Wilbur School to a transitional community housing facility for veterans - \$6,090.00.
3. Town of Somerset – purchase of materials to allow the Town Clerk to preserve historic birth, death and marriage records -\$13,250.00.

4. Town of Somerset – purchase materials to repair the roof at the historic Quaker Meetinghouse owned by the town - \$43,000.00.
5. Somerset Historical Society – repair and rehabilitation of a historic fire apparatus owned by the Society -\$13,200.00.
6. Playground and Recreation Department – rehabilitate and reconfigure the basketball courts at the Pottersville Playground - \$32, 600.00.
7. Playground and Recreation Department – replenish the beach sand at Pierce Beach - \$5,866.00.

The Committee received five applications for funding of eligible projects for fiscal year 2017. In early 2017, the committee will review each of the applications and determine which ones they will recommend for approval by the Town Meeting in May, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. O'Rourke Jr., Chairman and Secretary and Historical Commission Designee

Timothy Turner, Vice Chairman, Conservation Commission Designee

James Pereira, Playground and Recreation Commission Designee

Antone Soares, Jr., Somerset Housing Authority Designee

Gary Simons, Planning Board Designee

Steven Moniz, Board of Park Commissioners Designee

Richard Brown, Member-at-Large

SOMERSET HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Somerset Housing Authority is responsible for providing and administering the Chapter 667 Public Housing for Senior Citizens, age 60 years of age or older and handicapped persons on disability.

The Housing Authority maintains two complexes located on Read St., John F. Kennedy Terrace and Eugene Murphy Village. John F. Kennedy Terrace and Eugene Murphy Village are both independent living facilities.

John F. Kennedy Terrace is a two story complex with (8) buildings housing sixty (60) one-bedroom units. The site includes a community room with kitchen and laundry facilities and is home to the Administrative Offices. The initial occupancy date was December 1, 1965.

Eugene Murphy Village consists of fifteen (15) buildings housing 75 one-bedroom units. There are (9) wheelchair accessible units. This site also includes a community room with kitchen and laundry facilities. The Maintenance garage is also located at Eugene Murphy Village. The initial occupancy date was June of 1974.

The Authority maintains a waiting list and strives for 100% occupancy.

The Housing Authority received funding from The Department of Housing and Community Development to replace apartment windows at John F. Kennedy Terrace. The summer saw the replacement of windows in building #6. This was Phase 2 of the project.

The main door to the Community Rooms at John F. Kennedy and Eugene Murphy Village are now automatic making them mobility impaired accessible.

The Somerset Housing Authority has also contracted with a solar company and receives credits toward its National Grid bills based on the number of units the solar farm produces. This endeavor has been an asset in keeping the electrical costs manageable as the Housing Authority is all electric.

The Housing Authority continues to volunteer to pick up and distribute the “Brown Bag” program for Somerset area residents. This is done in cooperation with the Somerset Council on Aging, St. John of God Parish and The Boston Food Bank.

The Board of Commissioners of the Somerset Housing Authority serves without pay and benefits. The Commission is comprised of four (4) town elected members and (1) Somerset resident appointed by the Governor. The Commission is dedicated to the population it serves, not only tenants but also residents of Somerset. The Commission meets monthly to review finances and set policy.

It is important to note that the Somerset Housing Authority is not a subsidized authority. It does not receive monthly funding from the Department of Housing and Community Development to operate. It does however receive money from the Department for Capital Projects such as the window replacement. Smaller projects such as the automatic doors and other emergency issues are paid by the Authority.

The Housing Authority does not receive funding from the Town of Somerset. It does receive in kind services such as sanding in snow storms. The Housing Authority residents, staff and Board of Commissioners are grateful for any services that the Town is willing and able to provide.

All of the Massachusetts Housing Authorities continue to experience change in the way that we do business. This is due to the reform legislation that was passed in 2014. Fortunately the changes are coming slow as they are much more complex than originally thought.

Public Housing is becoming more and more of a necessity as our seniors face fixed incomes and a higher cost of living. Many lifelong Somerset residents are finding it difficult to maintain their homes, whether due to financial reasons, health, or other issues. These residents want to continue to reside in Somerset as they consider this their home. This is where their family and friends live. Somerset is the community that their lives revolve around. Although there has been no new housing, the Board and Administration continue to pursue avenues that will benefit the residents of Somerset.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas E. Potter, Chairman
Atty. Matthew Aspden, Vice-Chairman
Barry Sullivan, Treasurer
Antone Soares, Jr. Assistant Treasurer
Christopher Migneault, Commissioner
Lucia M. Casey, Executive Director
Kristie Steever, Administrative Assistant

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Somerset Playground and Recreation Department in 2016 saw another year of growth with its countless programs, activities, and continued support from the community. That growth also saw the start of capital improvements to its facilities through grants, donations, and the use of the Community Preservation Act funding. Under the direction of our Recreation Director, Barry Fontaine and his staff we continue to look for new activities, and strive to serve our residents and visitors with energetic activities and well maintained facilities. The Recreation and Playground Commissioners feel the need to support our seasonal part-time staff, senior volunteers- Betty Almeida and Stanley Golembewski, along with the countless

number of sponsors to help grow our department each year. It is because of their efforts, we can continue to provide quality programming and a constant search for the next big thing to come to Somerset in the form of recreation. The Department is supported by the office staff, in particular, MaryAnn Giguere and her ability to assist in the planning and implementation of activities, programs, and special events on a part-time basis. During the course of the past year the Department has worked side by side with the Highway Department to maintain the many fields and playgrounds for the softball, baseball, and youth football programs in town. It is only through this service and experience we can move in the right direction with the support of programs and activities which have seen a dramatic increase in attendance. An increase of new sponsors, instructors, and volunteers enables the Somerset Recreation Department to live up to our Mission Statement.

The goal of the recreation department is to provide affordable, self-sustaining programs that offer participants a variety of opportunities for passive and active recreation. Through play, education, and community-wide special events we grow as individuals and as a community.

With the help of many local businesses and volunteers we were able to enjoy some of the familiar programs, activities, and events which showed the true unique value of recreation in Somerset. These events included:

Summer Concert Series at Pierce Beach
July 4th Billington Family Memorial Road Race
Easter Egg Hunt with the Easter Bunny

Gingerbread House Workshop
School Vacation Programs
Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit, Run
Flag Football Program
Youth and Tennis Program
Babysitting Classes

Movie Nights at Pierce Beach
Trips to New York City
Basketball, Tennis,
and Field Hockey Camps
Pumpkin Festival
Yoga Classes
Red Sox Trip
Dance/Theater Program
Field Hockey Summer Clinic
Volleyball Clinics

The All Day Summer Program returned to the Wilbur School last summer for the second year. This extremely popular program included weekly performers and trips for our youngsters for an 8 week stretch and incorporated a new Dance/theater program and successfully partnered with the Somerset Public Library for a “Wacky Wednesday” program in conjunction with our summer program. A special thanks to Chris Matos from the Somerset Public Library for her efforts in this regard.

Finally, participating in the Spirit of Somerset this past fall, the staff and volunteers coordinated the Soap Box races and thrilled the many visitors to the daylong event with a ride on the Recreation train. Special thanks to all that helped us throughout the day, in particular, Jamison Sousa, Josh Darlington, George Giguere, George Tripp and Dorvalino Martins. We would also like to thank again, the Highway Department, for their diligent work on our fields, and of course the Town Officials

and Selectman for all of their support and cooperation throughout the year. We look forward to new exciting programs to continue in 2017 with an emphasis on a capital improvement program to facilities and the re-opening of the O'Neil softball field, completion of our Pierce Beach sand replenishment Project and refurbishing of the Pottersville Basketball Courts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pereira, Chairperson
Maryellen Aspden
Richie Silvia
Ray Frizado
Barry Fontaine, Recreation Director
Stephen Boland

SOMERSET FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Somerset Fire Department has had yet another busy and productive year. The amount of overall incidents remained fairly level with the previous year. As usual, medical emergencies continue to consist of nearly 80% of our runs. Ambulance calls continue to increase every year in part due to the aging population and a large percentage of senior citizens residing in Somerset. The Department continues to serve our community in any way possible in order to meet our mission which is to protect the residents and visitors of this community, along with their property, and to improve the quality of life to the best of our ability.

The Department continued all of its programs even though the poor economy continues to challenge us. We continue to be a key partner in TRIAD- this is a group comprised of the Fire Department, Police Department, Council on Aging and the Bristol County Sheriffs Office. TRIAD is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our seniors and offer them various types of assistance. Through TRIAD we have installed, to date, over 1300 smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, free of charge, to seniors in need. We also were able to continue our SAFE program- this is Student Awareness of Fire Education- which allows us to teach fire safety to all first and sixth grade Somerset students. In addition, we also received a grant for Senior SAFE which will allow us to offer fire safety education to our senior citizens. We rolled out our Senior SAFE program called "Somerset Cares". Somerset Cares is a program where firefighters perform free home fire safety visits by appointment to our seniors. Firefighters conduct a safety check of the home and assess the surroundings for various potential hazards. Firefighters provide the seniors with fire and fall prevention education materials, assist with filling out medical information cards, check and install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and provide flash lights, night lights, light bulbs and other supplies as needed. We performed over 80 of these visits in 2016. Continuing to offer these programs is a high priority within the Department.

Somerset Firefighters remained active throughout the community. We participated in the Spirit of Somerset, Public Safety Day and several school fairs. We continue to visit daycare centers when requested in order to begin teaching fire safety and familiarize younger children with firefighters and their equipment.

Somerset residents can be rest assured that they have a Fire Department that they can be proud of, providing a wide range of services to our residents and visitors by highly trained, well equipped personnel. I encourage you to look at the Fire Department page on the Town’s website in order to become more familiar with your fire department and obtain important information.

I would like to thank the residents of Somerset, the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator Richard Brown for their continued support of the Fire Department.

SOMERSET FIRE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY RUN BREAKDOWN:

| | |
|--|------|
| Emergency Medical Responses: | 2806 |
| Engine, Ladder and Other Fire Responses: | 406 |
| TOTAL: | 3200 |

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Paquette, Deputy Fire Chief

POLICE DEPARTMENT

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| CALLS FOR SERVICE | 28,257 |
| ACCIDENTS | 481 |
| TOTAL OFFENSES | 2548 |
| TOTAL ARRESTS (INCLUDES SUMMONSES) | 761 |
| PROTECTIVE CUSTODY | 5 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS | 3746 |
| Monies collected: | \$63,050.00 |
| PARKING CITATIONS | 458 |
| Monies collected: | \$13,482.86 |
| MONIES PAID TO TOWN | \$19,291.85 |
| FOR DETAIL CRUISER FEES | |
| ADMINISTRATIVE FEES PAID TO TOWN | \$28,993.91 |
| BY COMPANIES HIRING DETAILS | |

Although police/community relations suffered nationwide this past year, the Somerset Police Department has been fortunate to maintain transparency and be responsive to our community. The role of policing is undoubtedly complex, but by placing our community first and being engaged we continue to foster positive partnerships.

Throughout 2016 we continued reaching out to our senior citizens with the TRIAD program. Sergeant Todd Costa has kept this important program thriving with the assistance of the Somerset Fire Department, the Somerset Council on Aging, and the Bristol County Sheriff's Office.

Our K-9 Unit continues to be very successful. Officer Jared Linhares and K-9 Viepo have proven to be a great team. The K-9 Unit remains self-sufficient as well. After receiving an additional \$14,000.00 through the Stanton Foundation and a very generous donation of \$10,000.00 from a citizen; taxpayers have never had to pay anything for this important resource.

The Police Athletic League (PAL) remains an important community policing tool and forges positive relationships with the youth of our community. Sergeant Matt Reis, Officer Paul Trenholme, Officer Keith Wilkinson, Dispatchers Darcy Franco, and Dawn Pascoal keep this program functioning each Saturday during the winter months.

The 12th Public Safety Day was held on October 1st. Although it appeared that it may be a wash out, we were fortunate that the rain stopped and this great event went off without any problems. Many families showed up to see the demonstrations by

our Police and Fire Departments as well as see many of the tools used by our public safety officials.

The Second Annual BJ Voss 5K was held on October 8th. The 2016 version of this event attracted 584 people and raised close to \$20,000.00. The money raised will not only go to scholarships for Bristol Community College students but has been expanded to go to Somerset-Berkley High School students interested in the field of criminal justice.

In March, the Somerset Outreach Program was started. This program involves the Police Department Coordinator reaching out to people with opioid addiction issues in order to support them in developing a plan to ensure their survival, to facilitate the long-term process of recovery, and to avail addicts and their loved ones to services. Resident Judy Gorman volunteered to be the SPD Coordinator. She has really stepped up, along with others from Learn to Cope and Sstar.

As more people conduct private business transactions online, there has been a nationwide increase in crime with respect to these transactions. In 2016, the Somerset Police Department took a proactive approach to deter crime by creating an On-line Purchase Safe Zone, or “E-Commerce Zone”. In an attempt to reduce the likelihood of citizens falling victim to scams or more serious crimes; we designated the lobby and front parking lot of the police station as an On-line Purchase Safety Zone. These areas are under 24 hour video surveillance.

Rape Aggression Defense classes were held in 2016. R.A.D. has its foundations in education and awareness. The course includes lecture, discussion and self-defense techniques suitable for women of all ages and abilities. Officer Michael DeMoranville, Officer James Cardella, Dispatcher Darcy Franco, and Dispatcher Dawn Pascoal held 4 classes, which were well attended and well received.

Social media continues to be an important tool for the Somerset Police Department. Throughout 2016, the Somerset Police Department informed and educated the public through the various forms of social media. Nextdoor.com continues to get more popular. I began writing a weekly newsletter called “The Chief’s Report”. Within this report are various topics that are meant to educate the community; additionally, weekly statistics are given with some of the more interesting calls our officers respond to each day, which gives positive insight to the department along with accomplishments. These good feelings toward the police department should lead to clear lines of communication, legitimacy, and public trust.

The value of community engagement and partnerships is now clearly evident. We are now seeing lines of communication opened up like never before. Going forward, we will continue to create new programs, form new partnerships, and serve our community proudly.

On behalf of the extraordinary men and women of one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the state, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and all of the residents of the community. You all continue to stay engaged with this department that is why we remain a safe and vibrant town to live and raise a family in.

Respectfully submitted,

George M. McNeil
Chief of Police

BOARD OF HEALTH

Board of Health Permits Issued in 2016

| | Quantity |
|------------------------|----------|
| Beach | 1 |
| Body Art | 1 |
| Body Art Practitioner | 3 |
| Camp | 1 |
| Catering | 4 |
| Food Establishment | 76 |
| Frozen Desserts | 28 |
| Milk & Cream | 31 |
| Mobile Food Unit | 6 |
| Motel | 2 |
| Pool | 2 |
| Residential Kitchen | 2 |
| Retail Food | 51 |
| Tanning | 3 |
| Tobacco & Non-Nicotine | 25 |

TOWN NURSE

Please note that, unless otherwise noted, all data below is for both Somerset and Swansea, as the current nurse is serving both towns. Also note that, with the exception of infectious disease data, all sections below are accurate only a 9 month period of time (or the months noted), as the current nurse was on maternity leave from August to October.

The Town Nurse's Office is located at 115 Wood Street. The office is open from 7am to 5pm Mondays and Tuesdays. Residents are also welcome to visit the Swansea office on Wednesdays and Thursdays, same hours (located at 68 Stevens Road, Swansea).

Blood Pressure Readings

Any resident may come into the office to have their blood pressure checked. This is a free service that is available during normal office hours. One-hundred-fifty-four (154) blood pressures were documented as being read between both offices throughout the year.

Car Seat Checks

Six (6) families had car seats either checked or installed this year. Please call the office for an appointment, which is free of charge and typically lasts for about 30-45 minutes.

Home Visits

Thirty-nine (39) visits were made to patients' homes in both towns between January and July. Visits included blood sugar checks, B-12 Injections, and blood pressure checks.

Immunizations

Two-hundred-ninety-nine (299) influenza immunizations were administered in both towns between October and December. Immunizations were available during private and public clinics, as well as during open office hours.

Routine Injections

Eighty-eight (88) routine injections were administered to patients between both towns throughout the year. These injections included B12 and Repatha, medications which patients needed administered on a regular basis.

TB Testing

Six (6) people were tested for tuberculosis between both towns this year using tuberculin skin testing.

Medical Equipment

There is a large amount of medical equipment (including wheelchairs, shower chairs, canes, walkers, etc.) available to the residents of Somerset, located in the Council on

Aging/Nurse's office building at 115 Wood Street. Residents can speak to either office for further information as to how to obtain/borrow medical equipment.

TOWN NURSE

Infectious Diseases Reported by MA DPH

There were 130 cases reported to this office for the town of Somerset in 2016. They include the following diseases.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------|----|
| Babesiosis | 24 | Influenza | 34 |
| Campylobacter | 11 | Leptospirosis | 1 |
| Cryptosporidiosis | 1 | Listeriosis | 1 |
| Group A streptococcus | 121 | Lyme | 65 |
| Group B streptococcus | 1 | Salmonellosis | 3 |
| Hepatitis C | | Shiga Toxin (+) | 2 |
| Hepatitis E | | Viral Meningitis | 1 |
| Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis | | | |

Emergency Preparedness

The town nurse, in conjunction with the Bristol County Emergency Preparedness Coalition, participated in numerous drills and monthly meetings regarding the topic of emergency preparedness should a local disaster occur. These meetings include public health members from all Boards of Health in the county, as well as members from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Meetings include planning of and training for all possible disasters, from medical to environmental and anything in between.

Miscellaneous

Two conferences were attended this year for purposes of continuing education. The first was sponsored by Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses, and was held in Onset, MA. Numerous topics were presented over the course of two days, including armed intruders, tick-borne diseases, Alzheimer's disease, Ebola, and hoarding. The second conference was sponsored by the Massachusetts Health Officers Association in Taunton, MA, and covered the topic of the Zika outbreak and its relevance to the citizens of Massachusetts. This conference covered the transmission of Zika, dangers associated with the disease, cases which have been reported thus far in the United States, and the outlook of the disease's spread in the near future.

Attended a three-day course to become certified as a National Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPS Tech). Certification achieved by this course enabled the town nurse to install and check the installation of infant and child car seats. Appointments to install and check car seats can be made Monday through Thursday during normal office hours.

The "Swansea/Somerset Town Nurse" Facebook page was created. This page is a source to share current and new services offered by the office, as well as health education, and dates for flu clinics and other events.

I would like to take this time to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and the residents of Somerset for their support of this office.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Lachance, BSN, RN

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The following is my report for the Department of Weights and Measures for the year ending December 31, 2016.

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Scales over 10,000lbs. | 2 |
| 5,000 to 10,000lbs. | 0 |
| 1,000lbs. To 5,000lbs. | 0 |
| 100 to 1,000lbs. | 2 |
| 10 to 100lbs. | 75 |
| 0 to 10lbs. | 00 |

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Gas and Diesel | |
| Pumps sealed. | 174 |
| Apothecary Scales. | 4 |
| Jeweler Scales. | 0 |
| NOT SEALED | 4 |

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Total fee's to the Town | \$4,464.00 |
|-------------------------|------------|

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis H. Thibault
Sealer of Weights and Measures

PLUMBING & GAS

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Permit Issued: | | |
| | Plumbing | 176 |
| | Gas | 394 |
| Fees Collected: | | |
| | Plumbing | \$16,810 |
| | Gas | \$25,065 |

Inspections:

858

WIRING INSPECTOR

FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUED 436

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| NEW HOMES | 7 |
| ADDITIONS | 13 |
| SERVICE UPGRADE OR REPAIRS | 58 |
| SWIMMING POOLS | 22 |
| SOLAR SYSTEMS | 138 |
| ALARM SYSTEMS | 32 |
| COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL | 40 |
| SIGNS | 2 |
| BOILERS & A/C UNITS | 17 |
| GENERATORS | 6 |
| ANNUAL PERMIT | 1 |
| PHONE OR DATA | 2 |
| TEMPORARY SERVICES | 3 |
| MISCELLANEOUS REPAIRS OR REWIRING | 92 |
| GARAGES RESIDENTIAL | 3 |

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Tavares,
INSPECTOR OF WIRES

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Permits Issued in 2016

| | # | Permit Value |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------------|
| 3-Season Room | 2 | \$ 27,000 |
| Addition | 13 | \$ 704,700 |
| AG Pool | 23 | \$ 88,904 |
| Antenna | 3 | \$ 55,000 |
| Commercial Addition | 3 | \$ 2,314,000 |
| Commercial Demo | 2 | \$ 500,300 |
| Commercial Exterior | 2 | \$ 45,950 |
| Commercial Fence | 1 | \$ 3,800 |
| Commercial Interior | 5 | \$ 38,312 |
| Commercial Reroof | 5 | \$ 118,100 |
| Commercial Sheetmetal | 2 | \$ 37,600 |
| Commercial Solar | 6 | \$ 2,156,000 |
| Deck | 23 | \$ 135,883 |
| Demo | 4 | \$ 10,250 |
| Exterior Renovations | 55 | \$ 720,413 |
| Fence | 33 | \$ 115,013 |
| Fire Escape | 1 | \$ 2,500 |
| Fireplace / Stove | 20 | \$ 59,842 |
| Foundation Only | 4 | \$ 179,500 |
| Garage | 6 | \$ 166,750 |
| HVAC/Mechanical/Sheet Metal | 26 | \$ 277,552 |
| IG Pool | 5 | \$ 104,000 |
| Interior & Exterior | 10 | \$ 552,430 |
| Interior Reno | 50 | \$ 703,901 |
| New House | 10 | \$ 1,413,700 |
| New Tenant | 17 | \$ 320,950 |
| Pool House | 2 | \$ 36,000 |
| Porch | 13 | \$ 80,000 |
| Reroof | 224 | \$ 1,653,725 |
| Shed | 23 | \$ 51,726 |
| Siding | 42 | \$ 464,697 |
| Sign | 15 | \$ 50,862 |
| Solar Panels | 138 | \$ 2,496,256 |
| Sprinkler System | 5 | \$ 105,335 |
| Temp Mobile Home | 2 | \$ 30,000 |
| Temp Tent | 4 | \$ 2,771 |
| Weatherize / Insulate | 70 | \$ 252,082 |

| | | |
|---------------|----|----------------------|
| Window & Door | 82 | \$ 680,511 |
| | | \$ 16,756,315 |

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging office and senior center is located at 115 Wood Street. Regular office hours are Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Director is Traci Thibault. The office phone number is 508-646-2833.

The Council on Aging remains the focal point in the community for seniors. The mission of the Council on Aging continues to be to evaluate, promote and inform elders of new and existing services to enhance the quality of their lives. Our elder population continues to increase, as the fastest growing group of people in this country. In Somerset the total population of seniors according to 2010 census is 5094 an increase of 6.25%.

The Council on Aging receives many phone calls and office visits daily. During 2016 we have interacted with approximately 5,532 people for general information and referrals.

Transportation

The transportation service is available 5 days each week and Sunday mornings for church service. One day's notice is required by calling the mini bus at 508-646-2819. A second van is put on the road to transport clients to Prime Time Adult Day Care in Dighton and Swansea Adult Day Care Monday thru Thursday. Transportation to Brockton and New Bedford VA is available to our Somerset Veteran's on Fridays ONLY by appointment. Three part-time drivers operate the buses, which are all handicap accessible. All drivers are CPR and first aid certified. In 2016 the buses provided a total of 6,152 rides and drove 28,988 miles. We answered 3,399 calls on the transportation line.

Services & Recreation

Recreational activities include: bingo every Tuesday and Friday, pitch games and Canasta on Wednesdays, mahjongg every Monday and Thursday, three exercise classes - a low impact aerobics class every Tuesday and Thursday, osteoporosis exercise class every Monday and Thursday, Tai Chi exercise every Monday, a senior club that meets on Mondays and a knitting/crocheting class and adult coloring every Thursday morning. Total visits for these activities were 9,814. There is also an air hockey and pool table and a television with cable at the center for seniors to enjoy.

The COA continues to provide senior citizen photo ID's. We provided 10 seniors with ID's in 2016.

A Podiatrist visits the center on the first and fourth Wednesday of every month by appointment. He serviced 147 clients in 2016.

A SHINE counselor visits the center monthly to assist seniors with health insurance issues. He serviced 188 clients in 2016.

COUNCIL ON AGING

The COA staff schedules all appointments for both SHINE and Podiatrist and makes reminder calls to all clients.

Fuel assistance applications continue to be prepared at the COA office from November 1st to April 30th. We assisted 245 people with the application process in 2016. All clients are also made aware of the senior SNAP program at the time they come in to complete fuel applications. We assisted with 161 SNAP applications in 2016.

Farmer's Market coupons are distributed at the COA in July. 30 packets of coupons were distributed.

The COA helps to complete Brown Bag applications in co-operation with the Greater Boston Food Bank which then distributes 3 bags of groceries to seniors once a month at St John of God Church.

There are many presentations offered throughout the year to inform elders on pertinent issues. In 2016 the following presentations took place:

- Elder Law presentations with Attorney Jane Sullivan were:
"Preparing for your Future"
- Talk on Governor Baker's proposal regarding real estate/nursing home Health Care Proxy's
- Discussion on Medicare changes and Open Enrollment for 2017 with Lisa Sarkis, Regional Director of the SHINE program
- Mass Audiology provided free hearing screenings and hearing aid battery check/replacement.
- Respiratory Talk by Catholic Memorial
- Staying hydrated presentation by Community Nurse Homecare
- Winter Safety, presented by Somerset TRIAD
- Cooking For One by Catholic Memorial
- District Attorney Thomas Quinn Presented on Elder Abuse, Fraud, Identity Theft

Special events were planned throughout the year to include:

The COA held its first annual Butterfly Release in June. It was a great success! We sold 91 Butterflies and had approx. 200 people attended the event.

Luncheon and Magic Show with Jack Ryan

St Patrick's Day Luncheon

Valentine Luncheon

Volunteer luncheon in April

Easter Egg Hunt with seniors and students from Little Red Schoolhouse

Mahjongg tournaments (2) in April and October

Free Bingo with Brandon Woods

Luncheon provided by Selectman Holly McNamara in October

Luncheon provided by Jeff Marques (owner of Mallard Printing, FR) in November

COUNCIL ON AGING

Luncheon and entertainment by Tommy Rull (supported by Cultural Council)
Chow Mein Luncheon with David and Kim Berube
Ham & Bean Luncheon with David and Kim Berube
Annual Firecracker Bingo event in July
Free Bingo with Ruth from Country Gardens
Pizza and Ice Cream Social with NEXT Monitoring with entertainment
Bingo Halloween Party in October
COA Annual Christmas Party with entertainer Vini Ames and buffet lunch prepared by Somerset Grille.
Foxwoods Trips and a trip to Newport Playhouse
New Year's Party

Triad, a partnership between the Sheriff's Dept., public safety and COA continues to offer programs to ensure the safety of our seniors. In 2016 the COA helped host a senior picnic at Pierce Beach and 3 other luncheons with speakers. Triad meets on the first Monday of each month at the senior center at 9:30 am.

The Council on Aging has taken part in the senior tax work-off program. One senior from the community has helped in the office thru this program. This has allowed us to update resident information emergency forms and distribute many File of Life cards.

The Council on Aging has a Facebook page to keep the public up to date with activities and events. Activities and events are also published in the Spectator and Fall River Herald News.

The "Somerset Potters" newsletter continues to be distributed monthly within the community at various locations through the generosity of CFS (Client Focused Solutions) in Norton, Ma. The newsletter continues to provide a monthly calendar and articles of interest to seniors.

Meals

Congregate meals are served each weekday at 11:30 a.m. in our eatery. Reservations are necessary. A suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal is requested. The meal site is staffed by a nutrition worker, with 722 meals served in our kitchen.

Funding

In 2016 the Council on Aging received a grant in the amount of \$45,846.00 from Executive Office of Elder Affairs to continue to fund office staff, kitchen staff, extra van trips and to partially fund 2 of our exercise classes (Aerobics and Tai Chi). The Council on Aging also receives town money for the Director's pay, 3 part time van drivers and supplies to run the office at the sum of \$81,097. for 2016.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Council on Aging Board members

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Traci Thibault | COA Director/Secretary/Advisory Council Representative |
| Lucia Casey | Chairman |
| John Dator | Vice Chairman |
| Marion Bower | member |
| Ann Marie Couture | member |
| Muriel Gamache | member |
| Anthony Kucikas | member |
| Joan Cowen | member |

I along with board members wish to thank all town departments our Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen for their continued support of the Council on Aging and our senior citizen population.

Respectfully submitted:

Traci Thibault
COA Director

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Somerset Conservation Commission is comprised of seven members who serve three year staggered terms. The Commission is charged with regulating the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and Riverfront Act. These acts protect any bank, freshwater wetland, coastal wetland, beach, dune, flat, marsh, swamp bordering on the ocean, estuary, creek, river, stream, pond or lakes. It also protects land subject to flooding and the riverfront area. Any work within these areas or within 100 feet of these areas, or within 200 feet of a riverbank, or bank of a perennial stream requires the filing of a Notice of Intent, an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation, or a Request of Determination with the Commission before any work can commence. This must be done in order to contribute to the following interests of the Act which are the protection of public/private water supplies, protection of groundwater supply, protection of land containing shellfish, protection of fisheries, protection of wildlife habitat, prevention of pollution, flood control, and storm damage prevention.

The Conservation Agent signs off on all construction projects, many of which did not require filing a formal request with the commission as they would result in no alteration of any resource areas. The Commission conducted ten public hearings and five public meetings. As a result of these hearings/meetings, the Commission issued seven Orders of Conditions, and three Requests for determination.

The Commission welcomed the re-appointment of its Chairman Ronald Lassonde.

The Commission has several preserves throughout town. Chace Preserve is located at the foot of Hawthorne St. A nearly three acre wooded site with trails and a bridge over the Buffinton Brook. Elm St. Acres is fifty three acres of woodland trails with Labor-In-Vain Brook running through it. It also contains a pond and many significant rock formations. The Broad Cove Western Coastal Access Trail, which is a wooded trail leading to the bank of Broad Cove with access from route 138 just south of the Dighton turn-around. There is also access from the Pleasant St side, with a parking area. Mallard Point is located at the southern end of Anchor Drive and Pilot Drive. It is a fisherman's access trail and vista site, and Mt. Hope Vista Park on Massasoit St. in Brayton Pt. provides a picnic area, fisherman's access, and vista viewing of the Taunton River and Mt. Hope Bay. We invite all citizens to use the wonderful resource areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Lassonde, Chairman
Robert Camara, Vice Chairman
Timothy D. Turner, Agent/Clerk
Karen Smigel
Matthew Talbot

John Costa
Joseph Duarte

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Your Cable Advisory Committee is responsible to the Selectmen to be sure Comcast is following the terms of the 10 year renewal Cable television license granted by the Selectmen. We meet, usually monthly, to that end.

Some residents have inquired why Verizon FIOS, or some other cable system is not available in Somerset. The answer is very simple. Over the years we have attempted to bring a second system to Somerset, Charter Cable, Full Channel, and Verizon FIOS have all met with us. Their answer was the same....Somerset is too small for the investment needed to build a second system in Somerset considering the return on investment. All have said that they feel that, at best, only half of the 6103 Comcast customers served, or 3000, would jump to a second system. It would not be cost efficient for them. In the case of Verizon FIOS, it would only be possible if they could get other communities in the Fall River region to be served at the same time.

Another problem for Somerset would be that if a second system came, Somerset would lose "rate protection" from the state. More than one system would mean "an open market" with the rates being competitive. The cost for either of the systems could go out of sight.

Finally, while residents complain about higher rates, the problem is really exacerbated by the television stations themselves. In order for any cable or satellite system to carry a station's programming, they demand a "retransmission fee" from the cable system. These fees go up yearly and the stations use this fee to pad their bottom line. CBS, as an example, expects to take in over 2 BILLION dollars in retrans fees next year. That plus what the cable channels charge, make our bills go higher each year. So it would seem that we have a more difficult job each year to make sure Comcast does not overcharge us for our cable service.

I want to thank the members of the Cable Advisory Committee for their continued efforts to serve you and bring the lowest cost Cable to you. Mary Murphy, Joe Flanagan, Cheryl Crossley-Simmons, Steve Moniz, Richard Peirce, and Jeffery Schoonover take their jobs as your representatives very seriously and work hard for you.

Respectfully submitted,

John Clorite, Chairman

SOMERSET WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

The Somerset Water Pollution Control Department is pleased to submit its Annual Report for 2016. 1,079,736,000 gallons of wastewater was treated at the facility this past year. The yearly daily average flow was 2.958 million gallons per day. Total rainfall recorded at the plant was 35.15". Highest flows occurred in the month of February, averaged 5.107 million gallons per day. Lowest flows occurred in the month of September, the average was 1.788 million gallons per day. Flows have decreased an average of 174 thousand gallons per day in 2016. We processed 3,048,300 gallons of sludge at the Solids Handling Facility.

Brayton Point Reclaim Water Flow was 51,697,000 gallons.

There was 19 service connections tied into the sewer system bringing the total number of connections to 6,397.

There was 150 cubic yards of Massachusetts approved Type 1 Compost that was distributed for beneficial use by Cassella Waste Systems, Inc..

Casella Waste Systems, Inc hauled offsite 1,217.45 wet tons of off spec compost.

Synagro Northeast, LLC hauled offsite 1,632.69 wet tons of sludge cake.

Contract for Sodium Hypochlorite conversion project was awarded to Hart Engineering Corporation of Cumberland, Rhode Island.

I would like to thank the Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners and all Departments for their assistance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted:

Harold J. Gracia, Jr.
Plant Manager

SOMERSET WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT

FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET

| Adopted | Proposed* | Inc/Decrease |
|---------|-----------|--------------|
| FY 2017 | FY 2018 | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 902,380 | 904,541 | + 2,161 |
| PURCHASED SERVICES | 1,029,300 | 1,071,350 | + 42,050 |
| PROFESSIONAL & TECH | 29,250 | 33,825 | + 4,575 |
| SUPPLIES | 62,600 | 90,100 | + 27,500 |
| PUBLIC WORKS SUPPLIES | 83,050 | 90,050 | + 7,000 |
| MEDICARE | ** | 10,500 | ** |
| RETIREMENT | ** | 170,070 | ** |
| CHARGES/TRAVEL | 7,450 | 7,450 | 0 |
| INSURANCES | ** | 352,214 | ** |
| LICENSE REIMBURSEMENT | 1,200 | 1,200 | 0 |
| ADMINISTRATION | ** | 9,500 | ** |
| REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT | 13,500 | 39,000 | +22,500 |
| DEBT SERVICE | 218,512 | 218,180 | - 332 |
| TOTALS | 2,124,730 | 2,998,980 | |

* Subject to change 2/16/2017

** Items included in 2017 General Budget Accounts

Debt service item in 2017 budget included as special article paid from Infrastructure Fees

GRAVES REGISTRATION

The Grave Registration Officer in conjunction with the Veteran's Agent, and with the assistance of the Somerset Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and various Veterans' organizations, continues the practice of placing flags on the graves of veterans. Ms. Linda Pelletier continues to assist the Palmer Cemetery, placing flags on the graves of the veterans of the Civil War. In addition, the Graves Registration Officer continues to work with the Veteran's Agent to provide and assure memorial wreaths be placed on all Town cemeteries and Veteran's monuments for public celebrations to commemorate our Town's Veteran's on Veteran's Day and Memorial Day.

For the families of deceased veterans, please be reminded that all deceased veterans are entitled to an American flag at the time of their burial and a government grave marker both provided by the Federal Government. The funeral director will assist the family with this request, or contact the Veterans' Agent for assistance. If you know of a Veteran's grave in any of the Town cemeteries who is not receiving a flag, please contact the Veteran's Agent or the Office of the Town Clerk and we will be sure to provide one for the Veteran.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Berge
Graves Registration Officer

SOMERSET HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Somerset Highway Department is pleased to submit the following report for the year 2016.

The Highway Department continues to maintain the town-accepted roads, parks and playgrounds, and town cemeteries as well as a number of special projects. The Vehicle Maintenance Department continues to service all vehicles and equipment of the Police Department, Fire Department, Council on Aging Department and the Highway Department.

Street reconstruction and re-paving projects were completed on four streets through the town with a total cost of \$167,788.00 The State MassDOT Chapter 90 Program covering all costs at 100%. This year resurfaced street listing is as follows:

- Brayton Avenue (Swansea Line to Newhill Avenue)
- Lees River Avenue (Overpass to Rt. 6)
- Milton Avenue
- Senechal Drive

Engineering study of the South Street Culvert was completed. As a result, the existing deteriorated culvert will be replaced with a new box culvert. This project will be an ongoing project and requires an extensive construction work including restructuring of the road, temporary damming of culvert, dewatering, bypass pumping, etc. Total cost to complete this project is \$650,050.00 The State MassDOT Chapter 90 Program covering all costs at 100%.

I am also pleased to announce that the Highway Department have completed the beautification of the Center Green and will continue to upgrade street signs to meet federal standards for letter size and reflectivity. The Somerset Insurance Underwriters Association covering cost of street signs upgrade at 100%.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian J. Martin

Highway Superintendent

Town of Somerset -- Highway Department
 -- Vehicle Maintenance Department

VETERANS SERVICES DEPARTMENT

I would personally like to thank the Somerset community for making 2016 a wonderful year. We had our Fifth Annual Veterans Appreciation Breakfast with more than 600 local veterans attending, it was a huge success. We currently have over 1600 veterans according to our annual census from our town, and hopefully next year will be an even bigger success. Another great tradition was started this year with the Congregational Christian Church of Somerset. The Church held a free meat pie supper in May 2016 for the community, and all proceeds were donated to the Veterans Services Department for local veterans. This will be an annual tradition supporting our local Veterans.

The Veteran Services Department would like to extend to all the service men and women who are currently serving, or have served previously in Afghanistan or Iraq to contact this office for any assistance that may need regarding Veteran Services.

Also, please note that any Veterans who have served, on active duty, during Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, and whose primary place of residence was within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for at least six months prior to enlistment, qualify for the Massachusetts Welcome Home program. Please contact the Veterans' Office if further information or help applying is needed.

The Department of Veterans Services continues to assist the needs of veterans and their families with federal entitlement assistance, veterans' disability problems, and claims, both financial and medical. If you are in need of assistance, please call for an appointment to determine eligibility for MA Chapter 115 Veterans Benefits, for veterans and spouses of veterans.

The caseload for Federal assistance from the Veterans' Administration for veterans continues to increase for assistance with prescription drugs and medical benefits. I urge all Veterans with medical and prescription problems to come into the Veterans Office, as all veterans are eligible to receive medical and RX services through the Veterans' Administration.

The needs of our veterans of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan, and Iraq, and their families, continue to be of concern to the town. Veterans who served overseas in the Vietnam War and the Gulf War are reminded that they should contact this office and make arrangements to go to the VA Hospital for checkups because of the exposure to different types of chemicals used.

I continue to emphasize the importance of all veterans to contact this office so their service records are on file, and to provide them with information on the benefits to which they are entitled.

This office is here to assist all veterans in their needs. We request that all families in our community who have members in the armed forces on active duty, and in the reserves , to notify this office so that we may keep an active record of all our men and women serving our country.

VETERANS SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Transportation assistance for veterans for medical appointments at a VA hospital in Brockton or the New Bedford VA clinic can be arranged by contacting the Veterans Office at Town Hall.

As a reminder, bricks are still available for the Veterans' Memorial brick walkway. The bricks are available for purchase for \$45.00 each at the Veterans Office. The bricks may be purchased for any Somerset resident who is a Veteran, or for Veterans who are relatives of Somerset residents

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Cheetham
Veterans' Service Officer

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)

The Town of Somerset is a member of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District. SRPEDD (pronounced sir-ped) is the regional agency serving twenty-seven cities and towns in southeastern Massachusetts dealing with common issues facing our region, such as economic development, growth and land development, transportation, environment, municipal partnerships, and general planning for the future. SRPEDD is governed by a Commission of local mayors, selectmen, planning board members and at large members. We are funded by federal and state grants and local assessments. For FY2017 the Town of Somerset paid \$3,159.80 to SRPEDD, based upon an assessment of \$0.17395 per capita.

Local citizens serving at SRPEDD included the following:

SRPEDD Commission: James Burke and John Toulan

Joint Transportation Planning Group: Brian Martin and Fabien Canuel

Technical assistance was provided to the Town in the following areas:

- Continued assistance to South Coast Bikeway Alliance (Somerset represented) with mapping, funding guidance, route planning and sign design. In addition, the Bikeway Alliance worked with East Coast Greenway Alliance to develop a plan for wayfinding signage including inventory of existing signage and identifying future new sign locations. (MassDOT)
- Provided assistance to the Town and Somerset Transition Committee on a Rockefeller Family Foundation, Just Transition Fund grant (\$40K) application to develop consensus on a shared vision for potential reuse of Brayton Point and Montaup Power Plants. (EDA)
- Provided the town with a pedestrian safety evaluation, including traffic counts for the intersection of Read Street, County Street (Rte 138) and Riverside Avenue (Rte 138). (MassDOT)

Some of SRPEDD's More Significant Accomplishments During 2016 Were:

- The **Transportation Improvement Program**, which sets regional priorities for federal transportation funds, was completed and approved for FY 2017/2021.
- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Southeastern Massachusetts**, a regional economic development strategy, updated annually by SRPEDD and certified by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) maintains eligibility for the region's cities and town to receive EDA funding.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)

- SRPEDD continued to provide administrative and technical support to the **Taunton River Stewardship Council (TRSC)** through a Cooperative Agreement with the National Parks Service. The Council is a multicomunity, multi-agency collaborative established through the designation of the Taunton River as a Federal Partnership Wild & Scenic River in 2009.
- In partnership with the TRSC, SRPEDD provides public education and stewardship opportunities to Taunton River Watershed communities, as well as access to local project funds through its Mini Grants Program.
- SRPEDD provides technical planning to two regional transit authorities, **SRTA and GATRA**, including route evaluations, rider surveys, performance standards and federal reporting. SRPEDD completed a Regional Transit Plan for GATRA that will guide transit improvements in the near future.
- SRPEDD finalized its **Regional Bicycle Plan**, including a thorough inventory of existing bicycling conditions and statistics, outreach to the public and communities regarding infrastructure needs, and recommendations on how to improve connectivity throughout the region.
- SRPEDD completed the **Regional Bus Stop Inventory** for all bus stop locations within the SRPEDD region for the GATRA and SRTA. Data collected for each stop will provide assistance toward a Bus Stop Capital Improvement Program to begin in 2017.
- SRPEDD conducts a **district-wide traffic-counting program** and maintains a computer file of available traffic count data throughout the region. SRPEDD undertook 144 traffic counts at various locations this past year.
- SRPEDD maintains a comprehensive database of all 372 **signalized intersections** in the region and conducted 56 turning movement counts at various locations this past year.
- **South Coast Rail** remained a major priority in 2016. SRPEDD continued to support the Southeastern Massachusetts Commuter Rail Task Force, which includes representation from SRPEDD municipalities and regional organizations. SRPEDD also provided technical assistance to communities through 17 projects that implement the South Coast Rail Economic Development and Land Use Corridor Plan.
- SRPEDD is a member of two National Estuary Programs (NEP) including the **Narragansett Bay Management Committee and Buzzards Bay Steering Committee**, created to protect the resources and promote the stewardship of their respective watersheds. The Buzzards Bay and Narragansett Bay Watersheds together encompass the entirety of the SRPEDD area. As a member of these oversight committees, SRPEDD

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)

participates in the development of their respective Management Plans for both programs.

- SRPEDD has been providing technical assistance to the **South Coast Climate Change Coalition** whose mission is to increase public awareness of the probable consequences of climate change, help communities incorporate resiliency planning, and take actions that help communities adapt to and minimize the consequences of climate change.
- SRPEDD continues as the lead agency for the **Resilient Taunton Watershed Network (RTWN)**. The RTWN is a collaborative of local, non-profit, regional, and state and federal government representatives interested in the future health and resilience of the Taunton River Watershed. The RTWN provides information, conducts outreach and educational efforts, resources and tools to protect existing natural resources, reduce flooding, promote restoration, and develop sustainability. (EPA)
- SRPEDD is a member of the Board of Directors of **Southeast Environmental Education Alliance (SEEAL)**. SEEAL is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help provide quality environmental education and stewardship opportunities to communities in southeastern Massachusetts. SEEAL runs a Mini-Grants Program to support local projects in addition to projects that address climate change, alternative energy, urban agriculture and youth conservation education.
- SRPEDD maintains an extensive **Geographic Information System (GIS)** mapping program. The mapping program contains a number of data layers including, land-use, zoning, water resources, soils, habitats, transportation network, economic development, priority protection and priority development areas, and other data and information.
- SRPEDD operates the **Southeastern Massachusetts Data Center**, providing information to businesses, cities and towns, and individuals.
- SRPEDD continues to represent the region as one of thirteen members across the Commonwealth of the **Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA)**. Through its efforts and information exchange, the association assists member RPAs in responding to issues and needs that cross city, town, county, and state boundaries through planning, policymaking, communication coordination, advocacy, education, analysis, technical assistance and legislative support.

SRPEDD was established to serve the cities and towns of southeastern Massachusetts in response to ever-evolving planning-related issues and needs. The agency is governed by dedicated elected and appointed officials from each of its twenty-seven member municipalities (four cities and twenty-three towns), with planning services and technical assistance provided by a staff of twenty-three.

**SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)**

It has been a privilege working with your municipality over the years, and we look forward to continuing service and future collaborations.

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SOMERSET REPORT

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Academic Achievement Award – Class of 2019 – Richard Sousa

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2016

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Bruce J. Desrosiers Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Olivia Slater |
| <i>Andrew Dumont Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Fallon Boragine |
| <i>Thomas Rodrigues Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Fallon Boragine, Vatthana Doeung, and Olivia Slater |
| <i>Mark Marcoux Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Fallon Boragine |
| <i>Highland Neighborhood Association Award –</i> | Olivia Slater |
| <i>Kyle T. Woodruff Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Olivia Slater |
| <i>Dennis Abdow Scholarship –</i> | Fallon Boragine |
| <i>Paul McGovern Memorial Scholarship –</i> | Olivia Slater |

JOHN & ABIGAIL ADAMS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2016

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Patrick Benevides</i> | <i>Noah Gouveia</i> |
| <i>Fallon Boragine</i> | <i>Kyle Johnson</i> |

SKILLS-USA COMPETITIONS

District Competition

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Gold | <i>Richard Tavares and Travis Winters</i> |
| Silver | <i>Alex Almeida, Brooklyn Petrosso, and Chace Reed</i> |
| Bronze | <i>Elijah Fullerton, Logan Jankowski, Kendra Quattrucci, and Michelle Simmons</i> |

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|
| State Competition | Gold | <i>Noah Gouveia</i> |
| Silver | <i>Jonathan Kochan and Brooklyn Petrosso</i> | |

National Competition

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Bronze | <i>Noah Gouveia</i> |
| Winner of National Pin Design <i>Shaun Da Rocha</i> | |

OUTSTANDING VOCATIONAL STUDENT

Students receiving the Outstanding Vocational Student Award this year were Noah Gouveia – Carpentry and Cabinetmaking and Kyle Johnson – HVAC.

*Katarina Brown
Eliana Costa
Alexandra DaCosta
Vatthana Doeung
Vatthanak Doeung*

*Amanda Olney
Brandon Pavao
Cameron Rapoza
Michele Simmons
Olivia Slater*

***The full FY16 Annual Report for the Greater Fall River Vocational School District can be found on Dimanregional.org or a copy can be obtained at the office of the town clerk.

BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Following the annual election in May of 2016, the Board reorganized for the year at its first meeting electing Scott O'Brien as Chairman, Roger J. Benevides as ViceChairman, and Joseph Bednarik Jr. as Clerk.

The Board worked throughout the year administrating department policies and regulations and continues with planning for upgrades and improvements to the existing facilities and infrastructure.

Water Pollution Control Department

During this year the Board initiated an action to remove all solids processed and stored at the Water Pollution Control Facility. This action will reduce the amount of materials stored for processing at that facility and reduce the odors generated by the composting process. The Board working with the engineering firm of Wright Pierce awarded the Sodium Hypochlorite conversion construction project to Hart Engineering Corporation of Cumberland Rhode Island to convert both the Water Pollution Control Facility and Drinking Water Treatment from gaseous chlorine to sodium hypochlorite.

The Board also continues to evaluate all of the existing equipment, facilities, services, and the operations of the Water Pollution Control Department.

Also at the Special Town Meeting held on November 14, 2016 the Board presented an article for consideration which was passed by the voters present, to transfer the expense of the operations of the Water Pollution Control Department from taxation and operate it under the same enterprise system as the Water Department, beginning July 1 2017.

Water Department

During this year the Board awarded a contract for a Solar Feasibility Study to the engineering firm of Tighe & Bond. This study was made possible by a grant received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. The next phase of grant funding will provide for the design and engineering of a solar generating system which is proposed to be installed at the Drinking Water Treatment Facility. This facility when completed will reduce the electrical costs associated with

the Drinking Water Facility. Beginning this year the Board hired Christopher E. Wickman to operate the Water Department, replacing Robert E. Lima who now is the Superintendent for both departments.

We wish to thank all town departments who continue to offer their assistance, our employees who provide these necessary services to our residents and our community, and for your continued support of the numerous projects undertaken by these two departments.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott O’Brien, Chairman
Roger J. Benevides
Joseph Bednarik Jr.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Beginning the calendar year 2016 the reservoir level was one hundred thirty-seven inches (137”) below full pond. The highest pond level recorded for this year was twenty inches (20”) below full pond on May 10, 2016. The lowest pond level for the year was recorded on November 29, 2016 at one hundred sixty-two inches (162”) below full pond.

During this year, the Segregansett River Intake Station was operated for a total of 100 days, transferring a total of 638,619,947 gallons of water to the Somerset Reservoir.

Total rainfall recorded at the water treatment plant for the year 2016 was thirty-one point four seven inches (31.47”) in addition to thirty-two (32.0”) of snow.

This year the distribution system department concentrated their efforts in replacing four thousand one hundred fifty feet (4150’) of water main, sixty (60) service lines and installing five (5) fire hydrants on Winslow Avenue, Alberta Avenue, Antrim Avenue, Locust Avenue, and Ivanhoe Avenue in preparation for the reconstruction of those roadways by the Somerset Highway Department. The Department also performed routine maintenance of distribution system equipment, repaired water breaks, and assisted with the installation of service connections and service line replacements in all areas of the town.

AMOUNT OF WATER PUMPED

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Treatment Plant: | 853,546,000 gallons |
| GP #2 well: | 110,598,000 gallons |
| Total Delivered: | 964,144,000 gallons |
| Daily Average to Mains: | 2,641,490 gallons |

Highest Daily Amount Delivered: 4,274,000 gallons (07/28/2016)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Size of Main: 1 ½” thru 30”

Total Length of Distribution System: 95.26 miles

Number of Hydrants now in service: 804

SERVICES

Kind of: Cement Lined Wrought Iron, Galvanized Iron,
Ductile Iron, Copper and Plastic.

Size: ¾” to 10”

Number of Units Added in 2015: 5

Number of Units now in Service: 6734

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher E. Wickman
Plant Manager and Chief Operator

SOMERSET WATER DEPARTMENT

FISCAL YEAR 2018

| | BUDGET | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|--------------|
| | Adopted | Proposed* | Inc/Decrease |
| | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | |
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 957,245 | 997,069 | + 39,824 |
| PURCHASED SERVICES | 458,185 | 384,810 | - 73,375 |
| PROFESSIONAL & TECH | 56,905 | 56,905 | 0 |
| SUPPLIES | 107,125 | 100,475 | - 6,650 |
| PUBLIC WORKS SUPPLIES | 278,965 | 253,000 | - 25,965 |
| INTERGOVERNMENTAL | 50 | 50 | 0 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| DIGHTON TAXES | 3,900 | 3,900 | 0 |
| MEDICARE | 10,006 | 10,200 | + 194 |
| RETIREMENT | 128,850 | 170,070 | +41,220 |
| CHARGES/TRAVEL | 18,400 | 16,400 | - 2,000 |
| INSURANCES | 306,478 | 320,780 | + 14,302 |
| D.E.P. ASSESSMENT | 11,500 | 10,000 | - 1,500 |
| ADMINISTRATION | 7,500 | 9,500 | + 2,000 |
| REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT | 20,000 | 66,000 | + 46,000 |
| WATER UTILITY REPLACEMENT | 20,000 | 160,000 | + 140,000 |
| DEBT SERVICE | 970,515 | 759,665 | - 210,850 |
| TOTALS | 3,355,624 | 3,318,824 | -36,800 |

* Subject to change 2/16/2017

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| **SUBJECT TO CHANGE** | | | | | |
| | | | ADOPTED | SELECTMEN'S | |
| | | | FISCAL YEAR 2017 | RECOMMENDATIONS | CHANGE |
| 113 | TOWN MEETING | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL: | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | | | | | |
| 114 | MODERATOR | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 400 | \$ 400 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 400 | \$ 400 | \$ - |
| | | | | | |
| 122 | SELECTMEN | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 131,613 | \$ 133,156 | \$ 1,543 |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 5,725 | \$ 5,700 | \$ (25) |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 137,338 | \$ 138,856 | \$ 1,518 |
| | | | | | |
| 123 | TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 133,073 | \$ 138,500 | \$ 5,427 |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 6,275 | \$ 6,625 | \$ 350 |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 139,348 | \$ 145,125 | \$ 5,777 |
| | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|------------|------------|---------|
| 124 | CONTINGENT | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 6,580 | \$ 6,880 | \$ 300 |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 6,580 | \$ 6,880 | \$ 300 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 131 | ADVISORY & FINANCE COMM. | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 3,350 | \$ 3,350 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 300 | \$ 300 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 3,650 | \$ 3,650 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 132 | RESERVE FUND | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICE | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 100,000 | \$ 100,000 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 100,000 | \$ 100,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 134 | CENTREX TELEPHONE | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 135 | TOWN ACCOUNTANT | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 182,264 | \$ 182,409 | \$ 145 |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 3,185 | \$ 3,090 | \$ (95) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 185,449 | \$ 185,499 | \$ 50 |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|------------|------------|------|
| | | | | | |
| 136 | ANNUAL AUDIT | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 40,000 | \$ 40,000 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 40,000 | \$ 40,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | |
| 137 | COMPUTER/ENGINEERING | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 116,250 | \$ 116,250 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 116,250 | \$ 116,250 | \$ - |
| | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| 141 | ASSESSORS | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 121,256 | \$ 123,477 | \$ 2,221 |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 14,100 | \$ 19,705 | \$ 5,605 |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 135,356 | \$ 143,182 | \$ 7,826 |
| | | | | | |
| 143 | TAX FORECLOSURE | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ - | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,000 |
| | TOTAL | | \$ - | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,000 |
| | | | | | |
| 145 | TOWN TREAS/TAX COLL | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 207,551 | \$ 253,816 | \$ 46,265 |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|--|------------|------------|-------------|
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 56,175 | \$ 56,175 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 263,726 | \$ 309,991 | \$ 46,265 |
| | | | | | |
| 146 | TAX COLLECTOR | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ - | | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | \$ - | | \$ - |
| | | | | | |
| 151 | LAW DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 163,550 | \$ 161,750 | \$ (1,800) |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 163,550 | \$ 161,750 | \$ (1,800) |
| | | | | | |
| 161 | TOWN CLERK | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 102,537 | \$ 103,259 | \$ 722 |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 4,650 | \$ 4,350 | \$ (300) |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 107,187 | \$ 107,609 | \$ 422 |
| | | | | | |
| 162 | ELEC. & REGISTR. | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | \$ 17,500 | \$ 8,500 | \$ (9,000) |
| | EXPENSES | | \$ 34,600 | \$ 19,675 | \$ (14,925) |
| | TOTAL | | \$ 52,100 | \$ 28,175 | \$ (23,925) |
| | | | | | |
| 171 | CONSERVATION COMMISSION | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|--|-----------|----------|-------------|
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 16,217 | \$ - | \$ (16,217) |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 16,217 | \$ - | \$ (16,217) |
| | | | | | | |
| 175 | PLANNING BOARD | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 6,550 | \$ 6,550 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 950 | \$ 875 | \$ (75) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 7,500 | \$ 7,425 | \$ (75) |
| | | | | | | |
| 176 | ZONING APPEALS BOARD | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 3,025 | \$ 3,025 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 4,050 | \$ 4,050 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 7,075 | \$ 7,075 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 181 | ECONOMIC DEV. COMM. | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,000 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 184 | CABLE ADVISORY COMM. | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 1,400 | \$ 1,400 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 895 | \$ 905 | \$ 10 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 2,295 | \$ 2,305 | \$ 10 |
| | | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 192 | TOWN OFFICE | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 87,266 | \$ 47,930 | \$ (39,336) |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 41,796 | \$ 40,300 | \$ (1,496) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 129,062 | \$ 88,230 | \$ (40,832) |
| | | | | | | |
| 193 | OLD TOWN HALL | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 7,880 | \$ 6,205 | \$ (1,675) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 7,880 | \$ 6,205 | \$ (1,675) |
| | | | | | | |
| 195 | TOWN REPORTS | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 3,700 | \$ 2,500 | \$ (1,200) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 3,700 | \$ 2,500 | \$ (1,200) |
| | | | | | | |
| 198 | INSURANCE | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | |
| | EXPENSES: | | | \$ 8,175,657 | \$ 9,990,800 | \$ 1,815,143 |
| | Gen. Gov't Health 3,954,750 | | | | | |
| | Schools Health 5,512,995 | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 8,175,657 | \$ 9,990,800 | \$ 1,815,143 |
| | | | | | | |
| 199 | FICA | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|------------|
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES: | | | \$ 320,000 | \$ 330,000 | \$ 10,000 |
| | | (Gen. Govt: \$125,000) | | | | |
| | | (School K-8: \$205,000) | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 320,000 | \$ 330,000 | \$ 10,000 |
| | | | | | | |
| 205 | FIRE/POLICE STATION | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 40,350 | \$ 40,578 | \$ 228 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 100,677 | \$ 97,927 | \$ (2,750) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 141,027 | \$ 138,505 | \$ (2,522) |
| | | | | | | |
| 210 | POLICE DEPARTMENT | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 2,500,600 | \$ 2,626,540 | \$ 125,940 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 128,416 | \$ 156,705 | \$ 28,289 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 2,629,016 | \$ 2,783,245 | \$ 154,229 |
| | | | | | | |
| 215 | E-911 DISPATCH | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 382,437 | \$ 414,423 | \$ 31,986 |
| | EXPENSE | | | \$ 11,369 | \$ 11,369 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 393,806 | \$ 425,792 | \$ 31,986 |
| | | | | | | |
| 220 | FIRE DEPARTMENT | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 1,512,934 | \$ 1,516,976 | \$ 4,042 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 79,475 | \$ 79,475 | \$ - |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 1,592,409 | \$ 1,596,451 | \$ 4,042 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 241 | BLDG. INSP./ZONING AGENT | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 56,320 | \$ 57,308 | \$ 988 |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 2,543 | \$ 1,910 | \$ (633) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 58,863 | \$ 59,218 | \$ 355 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 242 | GAS & PLUMBING | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 23,010 | \$ 22,000 | \$ (1,010) |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 625 | \$ 225 | \$ (400) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 23,635 | \$ 22,225 | \$ (1,410) |
| | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 244 | SEALER OF STANDARDS | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 3,300 | \$ 3,300 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 300 | \$ 190 | \$ (110) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 3,600 | \$ 3,490 | \$ (110) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 245 | WIRING INSPECTOR | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 24,000 | \$ 22,000 | \$ (2,000) |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 150 | \$ 100 | \$ (50) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 24,150 | \$ 22,100 | \$ (2,050) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 291 | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 6,000 | \$ 6,000 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 3,760 | \$ 2,960 | \$ (800) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 9,760 | \$ 8,960 | \$ (800) |
| | | | | | | |
| 292 | DOG OFFICER | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 37,779 | \$ 41,000 | \$ 3,221 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 37,779 | \$ 41,000 | \$ 3,221 |
| | | | | | | |
| 294 | TREE WARDEN | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 295 | HARBOR MASTER | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,000 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 5,030 | \$ 5,030 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 9,030 | \$ 9,030 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 296 | INSECT PEST CONTROL | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 1,400 | \$ 1,400 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 1,025 | \$ 1,025 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 2,425 | \$ 2,425 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|--|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| 299 | INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS | | | | | |
| | REMOVAL OF DEAD ANIMALS | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 410 | ENGINEERING | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 420 | HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 680,146 | \$ 682,493 | \$ 2,347 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 64,230 | \$ 88,230 | \$ 24,000 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 744,376 | \$ 770,723 | \$ 26,347 |
| | | | | | | |
| 423 | SNOW REMOVAL | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 98,400 | \$ 98,770 | \$ 370 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 73,600 | \$ 73,230 | \$ (370) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 172,000 | \$ 172,000 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |
| 424 | STREET LIGHTS | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 175,000 | \$ 190,000 | \$ 15,000 |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|--|--|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 175,000 | \$ 190,000 | \$ 15,000 |
| | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 425 | TRAFFIC SIGNALS MAINT. | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 3,000 | \$ - | \$ (3,000) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 3,000 | \$ - | \$ (3,000) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 431 | LANDFILL | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 21,000 | \$ - | \$ (21,000) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 21,000 | \$ - | \$ (21,000) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 440 | WATER POLLUTION CONTROL | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 905,488 | \$ - | \$ (905,488) |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 1,222,350 | \$ - | \$ (1,222,350) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 2,127,838 | \$ - | \$ (2,127,838) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 480 | VEHICLE MAINT. FACILITY | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ 116,630 | \$ 116,453 | \$ (177) |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 322,050 | \$ 322,050 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 438,680 | \$ 438,503 | \$ (177) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 510 | BOARD OF HEALTH | | | CONSERVATION | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--|--|------------|------------|-------------|
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 87,546 | \$ 105,167 | \$ 17,621 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 1,400 | \$ 1,550 | \$ 150 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 88,946 | \$ 106,717 | \$ 17,771 |
| | | | | | | |
| 522 | TOWN NURSE | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 37,114 | \$ 41,500 | \$ 4,386 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 475 | \$ 475 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 37,589 | \$ 41,975 | \$ 4,386 |
| | | | | | | |
| 541 | COUNCIL ON AGING | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 74,342 | \$ 75,185 | \$ 843 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 6,136 | \$ 48,632 | \$ 42,496 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 80,478 | \$ 123,817 | \$ 43,339 |
| | | | | | | |
| 543 | VETERANS BENEFITS | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 52,507 | \$ 52,637 | \$ 130 |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 306,550 | \$ 292,300 | \$ (14,250) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 359,057 | \$ 344,937 | \$ (14,120) |
| | | | | | | |
| 544 | GRAVES REGISTRATION | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 750 | \$ 750 | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 1,200 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 1,300 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 1,950 | \$ 3,250 | \$ 1,300 |
| | | | | | | |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|--|------------|------------|-------------|
| 610 | LIBRARIES | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 410,241 | \$ 393,582 | \$ (16,659) |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 135,319 | \$ 148,570 | \$ 13,251 |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 545,560 | \$ 542,152 | \$ (3,408) |
| | | | | | | |
| 630 | PLAYGROUND & REC. COMM. | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ 90,160 | \$ 89,987 | \$ (173) |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 4,150 | \$ 4,150 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 94,310 | \$ 94,137 | \$ (173) |
| | | | | | | |
| 633 | PUBLIC FACILITIES OUTDOOR | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 31,074 | \$ 31,074 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 31,074 | \$ 31,074 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--|--|----------|----------|----------|
| 691 | HISTORICAL COMM. | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 1,760 | \$ 1,150 | \$ (610) |
| | TOTAL | | | \$ 1,760 | \$ 1,150 | \$ (610) |
| | | | | | | |
| 692 | PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | \$ 3,760 | \$ 3,760 | \$ - |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--|--|--|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 3,760 | \$ 3,760 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 693 | AMVETS | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 694 | AMERICAN LEGION | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | | | | | | | |
| 695 | VFW | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 | \$ - |
| | | | | | \$ - | | |
| 696 | MUNICIPAL & HISTORICAL BLDGS. | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 59,650 | \$ 38,650 | \$ (21,000) |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 59,650 | \$ 38,650 | \$ (21,000) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 710 | MATURING DEBT | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | EXPENSES: | | | | \$ 717,804 | \$ 716,180 | \$ (1,624) |
| | | (Gen. Govt: | \$566,180) | | | | |
| | | (School K-8: | \$150,000) | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 717,804 | \$ 716,180 | \$ (1,624) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 753 | INTEREST APPROP. | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES: | | | | \$ 121,883 | \$ 102,789 | \$ (19,094) |
| | | (Gen. Govt: | \$99,039) | | | | |
| | | (School K-8: | \$3,750) | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 121,883 | \$ 102,789 | \$ (19,094) |
| | | | | | | | |
| 832 | CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT | | | | | | |
| | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| | EXPENSES | | | | \$ 2,233,454 | \$ 3,078,552 | \$ 845,098 |
| | TOTAL | | | | \$ 2,233,454 | \$ 3,078,552 | \$ 845,098 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL GENERAL GOVT. EXPENSES: | | | | \$ 23,146,489 | \$ 23,879,214 | \$ 732,725 |

TOWN OF SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2016

| | General | Highway Fund | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Totals Governmental Funds |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ASSETS | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 19,008,500 | 183,644 | 4,514,909 | 23,707,053 |
| Investments | 2,022,320 | - | - | 2,022,320 |
| Receivables, net of uncollectibles: | | | | |
| Real Estate and personal property taxes | 718,849 | - | - | 718,849 |
| Tax Liens | 1,156,749 | - | - | 1,156,749 |
| Motor vehicle excise taxes | 185,317 | - | - | 185,317 |
| Departmental and other | 133,496 | - | 852,543 | 986,039 |
| Intergovernmental | 154,923 | 2,455,436 | 15,964 | 2,626,323 |
| Community preservation taxes | - | - | 4,895 | 4,895 |
| Tax foreclosures | 20,573 | - | - | 20,573 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 23,400,727 | 2,639,080 | 5,388,311 | 31,428,118 |
| LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES | | | | |
| LIABILITIES | | | | |
| Warrants payable | 1,109,192 | 108,968 | 177,412 | 1,395,572 |
| Accrued payroll | 1,541,606 | - | - | 1,541,606 |
| Tax refunds payable | 519,000 | - | - | 519,000 |
| Other liabilities | 125,814 | - | - | 125,814 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 3,295,612 | 108,968 | 177,412 | 3,581,992 |
| DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES | | | | |
| Unavailable revenues | 2,265,428 | 2,455,436 | 873,402 | 5,594,266 |
| FUND BALANCES | | | | |
| Nonspendable | - | - | 259,585 | 259,585 |
| Restricted | - | 74,676 | 4,077,912 | 4,152,588 |
| Committed | 1,466,748 | - | - | 1,466,748 |
| Unassigned | 16,372,939 | - | - | 16,372,939 |
| TOTAL FUND BALANCES | 17,839,687 | 74,676 | 4,337,497 | 22,251,860 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES | 23,400,727 | 2,639,080 | 5,388,311 | 31,428,118 |

Source: FY16 Audited Financial Statements
Powers Sullivan, Certified Public Accountants

TOWN OF SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

GENERAL FUND

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE-
BUDGET AND ACTUAL-FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

TOWN OF SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

| REVENUES: | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds | 42,040,772 | 37,040,772 | 37,311,351 | - | 270,579 |
| Tax Liens | - | - | 44,962 | - | 44,962 |
| Motor vehicle and other excise taxes | 1,825,000 | 1,825,000 | 2,277,181 | - | 452,181 |
| Hotel/motel tax | 77,000 | 77,000 | 107,135 | - | 30,135 |
| Meals Tax | - | - | 210,424 | - | 210,424 |
| Charges for services-sewer | 175,000 | 175,000 | 235,269 | - | 60,269 |
| Interest, penalties and other taxes | 185,000 | 185,000 | 210,269 | - | 25,269 |
| Licenses and permits | 250,000 | 250,000 | 399,733 | - | 149,733 |
| Fines and forfeits | 55,000 | 55,000 | 70,865 | - | 15,865 |
| Intergovernmental | 7,181,222 | 7,181,222 | 10,762,296 | - | 3,581,074 |
| Departmental and other | 110,500 | 110,500 | 224,957 | - | 114,457 |
| Investment Income | 20,000 | 20,000 | 69,110 | - | 49,110 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 51,919,494 | 46,919,494 | 51,923,552 | - | 5,004,058 |
| EXPENSES: | | | | | |
| General government | 2,645,619 | 2,667,219 | 2,193,663 | 118,694 | 354,862 |
| Public Safety | 4,729,133 | 4,898,633 | 4,907,846 | 29,429 | (38,642) |
| Education | 28,808,809 | 28,943,926 | 28,276,787 | 43,326 | 623,813 |
| Public Works | 4,370,719 | 4,600,358 | 3,151,374 | 874,927 | 574,057 |
| Community services | 514,511 | 514,511 | 419,728 | - | 94,783 |
| Culture and recreation | 1,128,062 | 1,128,062 | 861,095 | 263,372 | 3,595 |
| Pension benefits | 2,296,315 | 2,296,315 | 2,193,634 | - | 102,681 |
| Employee benefits | 7,567,878 | 7,567,878 | 7,516,759 | - | 51,119 |
| State and county charges | 500,771 | 500,771 | 533,259 | - | (32,488) |
| Principal | 1,009,494 | 1,009,494 | 1,009,494 | - | - |
| Interest | 155,028 | 155,028 | 155,028 | - | - |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 53,726,339 | 54,282,195 | 51,218,667 | 1,329,748 | 1,733,780 |
| EXCESS/(DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | (1,806,845) | (7,362,701) | 704,885 | (1,329,748) | 6,737,838 |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | | | | |
| Other amounts raised | - | - | - | - | - |
| Use of overlay surplus to fund current year appropriations | 819,644 | 3,656,644 | - | - | 3,656,644 |
| Free cash appropriated to fund current year budget | - | 2,648,431 | - | - | 2,648,431 |
| Use of prior year fund balance to fund carryovers | 1,378,516 | 1,378,516 | - | - | 1,378,516 |
| Transfers in | 227,804 | 423,229 | 636,698 | - | (213,469) |
| Transfers out | (619,119) | (744,119) | (744,119) | - | - |
| TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) | 1,806,845 | 7,362,701 | (107,421) | - | 7,470,122 |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE | - | - | 597,464 | (1,329,748) | (732,284) |
| BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year | 8,746,318 | 8,746,318 | 8,746,318 | - | - |
| BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE, End of year | 8,746,318 | 8,746,318 | 9,343,782 | (1,329,748) | (732,284) |

Source: FY16 Audited Financial Statements
Powers Sullivan, Certified Public Accountants

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

TOWN OF SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

| | General | Highway Fund | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| REVENUES: | | | | |
| Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds | 37,052,618 | - | - | 37,052,618 |
| Tax Liens | 44,962 | - | - | 44,962 |
| Motor vehicle and other excise taxes | 2,277,181 | - | - | 2,277,181 |
| Hotel/motel tax | 107,135 | - | - | 107,135 |
| Meals Tax | 210,424 | - | - | 210,424 |
| Community preservation taxes | - | - | 208,904 | 208,904 |
| Charges for services | 235,269 | - | 2,485,703 | 2,720,972 |
| Penalties and interests on taxes | 210,269 | - | - | 210,269 |
| Licenses and permits | 399,733 | - | - | 399,733 |
| Fines and forfeitures | 70,865 | - | - | 70,865 |
| Intergovernmental | 12,434,296 | 330,172 | 1,682,803 | 14,447,271 |
| Departmental and other | 224,957 | - | 978,054 | 1,203,011 |
| Investment income | 206,866 | - | 8,778 | 215,644 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 53,474,575 | 330,172 | 5,364,242 | 59,168,989 |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | | |
| Current: | | | | |
| General government | 2,193,663 | - | 467,433 | 2,661,096 |
| Public Safety | 4,907,846 | - | 1,619,732 | 6,527,578 |
| Education | 28,276,787 | - | 2,559,036 | 30,835,823 |
| Public Works | 3,151,374 | 335,403 | 1,623,208 | 5,109,985 |
| Health and human services | 419,728 | - | 90,682 | 510,410 |
| Culture and recreation | 861,095 | - | 169,214 | 1,030,309 |
| Pension benefits | 3,865,634 | - | - | 3,865,634 |
| Employee benefits | 7,516,759 | - | - | 7,516,759 |
| State and county charges | 533,259 | - | - | 533,259 |
| Debt Service: | | | | |
| Principal | 1,009,494 | - | - | 1,009,494 |
| Interest | 155,028 | - | - | 155,028 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 52,890,667 | 335,403 | 6,529,305 | 59,755,375 |
| Excess(deficiency)of revenues over expenditures | 583,908 | (5,231) | (1,165,063) | (586,386) |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | | | |
| Capital Lease Financing | - | - | 440,514 | 440,514 |
| Transfer in | 636,698 | - | 744,119 | 1,380,817 |
| Transfers (out) | (744,119) | - | (222,499) | (966,618) |
| Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) | (107,421) | - | 962,134 | 854,713 |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE | 476,487 | (5,231) | (202,929) | 268,327 |
| FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 17,363,200 | 79,907 | 4,540,426 | 21,983,533 |
| FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR | 17,839,687 | 74,676 | 4,337,497 | 22,251,860 |

Source: FY16 Audited Financial Statements
Powers Sullivan, Certified Public Accountants

SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Year in Review: 2015-2016

Somerset Elementary Schools

The 2015-2016 school year began with collaboration between all three elementary schools' staff to build a balanced schedule that included bringing back music twice in a six-day cycle. The new six-day cycle included opportunities for teachers to have common planning time to ensure consistency for instruction and student learning among grade levels and content areas. Highly qualified teachers, such as interventionist teachers, were hired to further support teaching and learning. Teaching and support staff, that includes both new and veteran educators with a strong knowledge base, support each school. Our staff takes pride in their ability to celebrate students' strengths, while also addressing areas of need.

Chace, North, and South Elementary Schools continue to provide rigorous educational opportunities to ensure that all students demonstrate academic, social and emotional growth. All three schools uphold the belief that all of our students will leave Somerset Elementary Schools with the twenty-first century skills needed to help ensure college and career readiness as they progress through their educational journey. All three schools have improved their wifi infrastructure and increased the number of devices in each classroom.

Somerset Public Schools has continually provided opportunities for our faculty and staff to further their own content and pedagogical knowledge. STEMSCOPES science curriculum was implemented in all three schools, kindergarten through grade 5. All elementary schools piloted ELA and Math curriculums and ReadyGen and Go Math were chosen. Tiered instructional supports, and Response to Intervention (RTI), was further developed in all three elementary schools. Schoolwide schedules were modified to support this tiered system of individualized student instruction. Administrative Learning Walks were continued to further support aligned teaching and learning practices.

Professional development opportunities were provided to our staff to address the educational, social/emotional and safety needs of our learners. Staff participated in various professional development opportunities that included, but were not limited to, RTI, Instructional Technology usage, Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI), ALICE Training, and Positive Behavior Instructional Supports (PBIS). Stakeholders from all elementary schools participated in Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment professional development. Teachers continued to pursue coursework and some participated in a book study in order to better serve our English Language Learners. Staff from all elementary schools also participated in a 5-week technology workshop called 'Crack the Code' taught by our own staff. EIPEN training was available to all staff members by our district school nurses.

SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

All elementary schools continued to use PATHS (Positive Alternative Thinking Strategies) as our social-emotional curriculum for grades K-5. Teachers implemented lessons twice a week, which encouraged students to identify their emotions and utilize appropriate coping strategies. Students throughout the elementary schools were exposed to the same strategies and vocabulary associated with calming techniques, bullying prevention and conflict resolution. In addition, our monthly character education programs encouraged students to show respect and tolerance towards peers and adults. Each school has implemented a PBIS (Positive Behavior Instructional Supports), a system that promotes safety, respect, and a responsible learning community.

Parents, caregivers and members of our community continued to contribute to the school improvement process through their participation in School Council and/or PTO. Our School Councils assisted with the development of our school improvement plans. Our Parent-Teacher Organizations planned various family nights and fundraisers to provide our students with rich learning experiences.

Through the support of parents, teachers and community members, our students continued to experience academic and emotional growth. Moving forward, Somerset Public Schools, in collaborative effort with the Somerset School Committee, Central Office Administration, Elementary Principals and Support Staff will develop and implement programs to meet the needs of all of our learners.

Somerset Middle School

≈Pride and Respect≈

Somerset Middle School continues to focus on developing our 600+ students with knowledge and skills that will prepare them not only for high school but also with career and college ready skills to be successful in an increasingly global and technological society. The administration, faculty, and support staff at Somerset Middle School are highly qualified and committed to student achievement. A cotaught teaching model in Mathematics and English Language Arts has been in place for six years and we continue, with the support of community members, to add new technology for both our students and faculty.

Engaging the community has been an ongoing initiative for all schools. The following is a list of ways that Somerset Middle School students' have engaged the community and how the community has engaged the students:

- A very active and supportive Parent Teacher Organization
- Community Service Committee and Community Service Club assist students, parent/guardians, and the community with student volunteerism
- Continental Math League participants, facilitated by the middle school math content coordinator, to date have raised nearly \$76,000 for St. Jude's Children Hospital

SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- A school-wide Veterans Assembly - members of our community share their experiences
- Transition open houses and parent meetings (elementary to middle and middle to high)
- Cyber-bullying and anti-harassment informational workshops for students, faculty, parents, and community
- Food drives to support the local food pantries
- Clothing and toy drives to support local families, shelters and hospitals
- Letters for troops overseas
- Music students perform locally
- We offer online grading communication for parents and students
- We offer Monday – Thursday Homework Club and Intramurals
- We offer students clubs to participate in (drama, yearbook, engineering technology, science robotics, peer leadership, student government, green team, school newspaper, chess club, and community service)
- We offer several middle school sport teams (boys' soccer, girls' soccer, fall cheerleading, winter cheerleading, field hockey, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, softball, baseball, cross country)
- We offer music ensembles (drama, jazz band, symphonic band, marching band, concert band, chorus, and select ensembles)
- Student run Green Team collections on a weekly basis
- The School Council consists of community members, parents, and teachers
- We encourage communication between school, home, and the community
- Daily and weekly bulletin posted on school website
- Student art work displayed at various buildings throughout town
- English Language Arts classes participate in many local essay contests
- Lions Club Peace Poster Contest participants and Boston Globe Scholastic Art Contest
- SMS was represented at Massachusetts Project 351 (statewide middle school community service project)
- Town sports leagues use the facilities six days/nights per week •
Local police department uses the facility for P.A.L.
- Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troup meetings are held at Somerset Middle School

A new science curriculum was piloted with implementation in the 2016-2017 year. We are exploring the possibility of being a one-to-one school (every student with a technology device), we are piloting new English Language Arts and Engineering Technology curriculum, we have replaced original lockers with new lockers for the entire student body, and continue to upgrade our aging facility.

SOMERSET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Additionally, there is interaction between the parents and the schools including open house, parent teacher conferences, PTO, athletic meetings, Friends of Music, School Council, parent workshops, music group concerts, play productions, and many other events.

The middle school students demonstrated their levels of achievement through mathematics meets, art and music competitions, essay competitions, MCAS test, robotics, and science fair competitions. The students had field trips to local theaters for live productions, Worcester Art Museum, Boston Science Museum, Boston Duck Tour, and Foxboro math workshop. Guest speakers on Native American culture, veterans, authors, homeless, and the Somerset Public Library, enriched our students with their knowledge and experiences. The eighth grade class traveled to Washington D.C. and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for a trip packed with learning opportunities, visiting our Nation's most prestigious buildings and grounds.

The Renaissance Program recognized students monthly who reflect the qualities of *Pride and Respect*. They are truly what make the middle school stand above the average. These students are ambassadors to their teachers, classmates, and community members by assisting them in random and repeated acts of kindness. They signify through their actions what pride and respect truly mean.

The middle school years provide each student with the wonderful opportunity to discover his or her unique talents and gifts. With the support of family, teachers, and community the students can continue their educational journey far into the 21st century.

SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Year in Review 2016

I. Academic Achievements

Our school has settled into our new facility and students are reaping the benefits of a state-of-the-art building. In 2016, ninety-seven percent of our students graduated from Somerset Berkley Regional High School. Of those graduates, eighty-seven percent of them are continuing their education at a postsecondary forum, seven percent moved into the workforce and three percent bravely decided to join our military for which we thank them for their service. Students have been learning and exploring new opportunities to become the leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

Our school has continued to increase the academic opportunities for students. The Advanced Placement program has been expanded in order to allow for students to explore challenging academic opportunities that can enhance their field of knowledge. Over eighty-three percent of our students that were administered the AP testing passed. This is thirteen percent higher than the Massachusetts average and twenty-three percent higher than the global average. These successes put them in good standing when competing with other high school students from across the nation and the world.

SBRHS students have been successful in the classroom as supported by a phenomenal staff that is student centered and 21st century focused. The staff has a progressive approach to education that enables students to be prepared for the world that they will live in verses the world that we live in now. We develop leaders that combine intellect, innovation, collaborators and most importantly a heart. Students are encouraged to support each other and those less fortunate in order to succeed as a society.

II. Extracurricular Achievements

While our purpose is academic, our extracurricular experiences that we offer are the soul of the school. As lauded by NEASC, we offer more opportunities for exploration per student than other organizations in the area. Students are showing their pride while finding their passions in these enriching organizations.

A list of 2016 highlights for SBRHS athletics are as follows:

- In Spring 2016, it was announced that Somerset Berkley Regional High School would be joining the South Coast Conference (SCC) beginning in the 2017-18 school year.
- Hope Estrella '16 and Cassie Graca '16 were honored by the MIAA at the annual Girls' & Women in Sports Day Celebration at Faneuil Hall in Boston.
- Unified Track celebrated its second season as a sport offering by the school. • Many SBRHS athletic teams volunteered their time or conducted fundraisers for local charities.
- The Baseball team captured the Spring 2016 EAC championship.
- SBRHS Wrestlers Nate Pacheco and Austin Cooley were individual Division 3 state champions in February 2016.
- SBRHS Wrestler Mitch Prario surpassed the 100-win milestone for his career. • Tim Frechette '17 attended the New England Student Leadership Conference in Summer

SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

2016 and was later chosen to serve on the MIAA's Student Advisory Board for the 2016-17 school year.

- Tim Frechette '17 and Josie Schmidt '18 were chosen to serve as the MIAA Student Ambassadors from SBRHS for the 2016-17 school year.
- Unified Basketball entered its second year in the SBRHS athletic program.
- The Wrestling team defeated Durfee to retain the Petrillo Cup.
- The Boys' Soccer team defeated Case to retain the Cabral Cup.
- The Girls' Soccer team defeated Case to retain the Cabral Cup.
- The Field Hockey team went undefeated during the Fall 2016 regular season. • The Field Hockey team and the Football team captured the EAC championship in their final seasons in the conference in Fall 2016.
- The Football team defeated Case on Thanksgiving to capture the 49ers trophy for the 5th consecutive season.
- The Hockey team won the Prenda Cup for the 4th straight season.
- Members of the Boys' Indoor Track, Girls' Indoor Track, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Baseball, Boys' Outdoor Track, Girls' Outdoor Track, Unified Track, Softball, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Fall Cheering, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Boys' Soccer and Unified Basketball teams all participated in MIAA state tournaments and/or competitions.
- The baseball field and two soccer fields located at Somerset Berkley Regional High School were officially opened.
- Boys' Tennis Coach Doug Chapman was named to the No Cut All-Start Team by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) for the second straight year.
- Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports captains attended seasonal workshops on campus conducted by the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA).
- Numerous SBRHS student-athletes earned conference all-star and all-scholastic honors.

In January, the following students participated in the Senior Southeast Music Festival – Catherine Botelho on Violin in the Orchestra, William Medeiros on Tuba in the Band and David Rausch on the Baritone Saxophone in the Jazz Band – there is only one Baritone Sax in that group which means he earned the highest score in the entire Southeast District. David also earned an All State recommendation.

The musical production of “Beauty and the Beast” was a huge success, performing for 3 well attended and appreciative audiences. We look forward to this year’s show, “Sister Act”.

2016-2017 Art exhibits in James F White Gallery to date:

Day of the Dead – collaboration with World Language Department
“Light and Shadow”

Art students were involved in the following exhibits:

Scholastic Art Awards, 2015-16

SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Ian Ledo, Drawing, Silver Key

Isabella Seney, Photography Portfolio, Silver Key

Jillian Silva, Photography Portfolio, Honorable Mention

Kelsey Pereira, Photography Portfolio, Honorable Mention

Kara Desjarlais, Mixed Media (Weaving), Gold Key

UMass Dartmouth CVPA Emerging Young Artists Exhibit, 2016

Kelsey Pereira, Merit Award, Photography

Krisjanis Reks, Merit Award, Photography

Julia Fitzgerald, Merit Award, Photography

Jill Mercer, Drawing

Massachusetts Animal Fund Poster Contest 2016

Lillie Ferreira, grade 9 (Art Foundations)

Haley Lawrenson, (Digital Photography) grade 10

Envisioning Somerset Photo Finalists - works exhibited in town-wide installations on local buildings

Julia Angelini

Jillian Berube

Emma Bodner

Brooke Campbell

Philip Chagnon

Andrew Chapdelaine

Savana Covel

Andrew Farias

Harry Harmon

Eric Hermenau

Jessica Orlando

Kelsey Pereira

Monica Rito

Isabella Seney

Jill Silva

Hannah Sipe

Denver Weeks

Our social organizations are alive and well. Students competed in various activities from mathematics competition, WGBH Quiz shows, Robotics competitions, Debate competitions as well as other civic and socially aware events. Our students have continued to show the level of sophistication and innovation that will cultivate a sense of pride of all our residents.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Lanczycki

Principal

Somerset Berkley Regional High School

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| For Your Convenience | |
|--|---------------|
| Police/Fire/Ambulance (Emergency) | 911 |
| Police Department (routine business) | 508-679-2138 |
| Fire Department (routine business) | 508-646-2810 |
| Accountant | 508-646-2820 |
| Assessor | 508-646-2824 |
| Board of Health | 508-646-2804 |
| Building Inspector | 508 646 2805 |
| Clerk | 508-646- 2818 |
| Collector | 508-646- 2816 |
| Conservation Commission | 508-646- 2806 |
| Council on Aging | 508 646 2833 |
| Emergency Management | 508-673- 1000 |
| Highway Department | 508 646 2835 |
| Housing Authority | 508-672- 3348 |
| Library | 508-646- 2829 |
| Nurse | 508 646 2807 |
| Permits (Building, Electrical, Plumbing) | 508 646 2805 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Planning Board | 508-646- 2805 |
| Playground Department | 508 646 2808 |
| School Department | 508 324 3100 |
| Selectmen | 508 646 2800 |
| Sewer Committee | 508 646 2838 |
| Sewer Plant | 508 646 2838 |
| Superintendent of Schools | 508-324- 3100 |
| Treasurer | 508-646- 2822 |
| Town Administrator | 508 646 2800 |
| Veterans Services | 508-646- 2827 |
| Water Department | 508 679 2731 |
| Water Department Plant | 508 674 4215 |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | 508 646 2818 |